

## Treaty signing marks the planting of a 'mighty tree of peace'

# Symbol of hope for mankind

● The historic US-Soviet treaty to eliminate medium and shorter-range nuclear missiles was signed by President Reagan and Mr Gorbachov

● Earlier at a welcoming ceremony on the White House lawn the Soviet leader looked forward to the goal of cutting strategic weapons by half

● The details of the INF treaty reveal that there are 120 Soviet missile sites, open to US inspection and 25 American sites for the Russians to cover

● In the Commons Mrs Thatcher won praise for the Brize Norton "summit" and details of the missile withdrawal from Molesworth were announced

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Smiling broadly and to the warm applause of their wives, their delegations and senior negotiators, President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov yesterday signed the historic agreement eliminating all ground-based intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

The two leaders affixed their signatures 16 times to the clauses of both Russian and English versions of the 200-page document.

They then exchanged their pens, shook hands warmly, applauded each other and beamed to the winner of dozens of cameras and the television cameras carrying the simple but portentous ceremony live to the US, the Soviet Union and other parts of the world.

The treaty, President Reagan said, was an "excellent

example of the rewards of patience". When the zero option was first proposed more than six years ago, it was dismissed as a propaganda ploy or as an impossible vision of utopia.

With patience, determination and commitment we have made this impossible vision a reality.

Mr Gorbachov hoped December 8, 1987 would become a date that will be inscribed in the history books — a date that will mark the watershed separating the era of a mounting risk of nuclear war from the era of a demilitarization of human life.

The treaty, whose final verification details were worked out only last weekend, requires the destruction within three years of some 2,800 missiles with 3,800 warheads, mainly based in Europe. It was hailed by both leaders as an historic achievement, a beginning to greater mutual trust and a symbol of hope for mankind.

"We can be proud of planting this sapling, which may one day grow into a mighty tree of peace," Mr Gorbachov said. Mr Reagan said the treaty protected the interests of America's friends and allies. It also embodied another important principle: the need for glasnost, a greater openness, in military programmes and forces.

Mr Reagan said he had listened to the wisdom of the old Russian proverb, and then, excusing his pronunciation, repeated his favourite "Makins" — "Trust but verify".

Mr Gorbachov, standing beside him, interrupted to say: "You repeat that at every meeting," and was greeted with loud laughter and applause.

His impromptu remark, leading a disarming informality to the ceremony, may also have been a subtle hint to hardliners in the Senate who have doubts about ratification that President Reagan has indeed done everything he could to ensure the best possible verification of the treaty.

Mr Reagan added: "We can only hope that this history-making agreement will not be an end in itself, but the beginning of a working

relationship that will enable us to tackle the other issues, urgent issues, before us: strategic offensive nuclear weapons, the balance of conventional forces in Europe, the destructive and tragic regional conflicts that beset so many parts of our globe, and respect for the human and natural rights that God has granted to all men."

The Soviet leader, in his brief speech before signing the treaty, said succeeding generations would hand down their verdict on its importance. It had a "universal significance" for mankind, both from the standpoint of world politics and from the standpoint of humankind. He said it offered a big chance to get on to the road leading away from the threat of catastrophe.

Mr Gorbachov held his first meeting with Mr Reagan in the morning before the 2.00pm signing ceremony. The White House said afterwards that he was wearing a set of solid-gold cufflinks given to him by Mr Reagan, which matched the pair the President was wearing. The cufflinks pictured the biblical prophet Isaiah breaking swords into ploughshares.

The INF treaty actually eliminates only 4 per cent of the "superpowers' nuclear stockpile. In his public remarks since arriving, Mr Gorbachov has emphasized several times that he is eager now to move on to further arms reductions, starting with a 50 per cent cut in strategic weapons and moving on to other nuclear weapons, including battlefield weapons, in Europe.

The two First Ladies, each dressed in fashionable dark fur, stood together looking demurely, as did the assembled dignitaries of both sides. President Reagan, firm and impressive, welcomed his guest with dignity and cordiality. "Today marks a visit that is perhaps more momentous than many which have preceded it, because it represents a coming together not of allies but of adversaries," he said. But, he said, Mr Gorbachov

## Friendly words mark arrival

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

Declaring that the two superpowers were about to take a "giant step" towards peace, with the signing of an historic arms treaty, President Reagan yesterday welcomed Mr Mikhail Gorbachov on the south lawn of the White House and told him the world was watching them.

The Soviet leader, exuding confidence and cordiality, said he had come to Washington to advance the next and most important goal of cutting strategic weapons by half "in the context of a firm guarantee of strategic stability". He looked forward to "a most serious and frank dialogue" on other issues of Soviet-American relations.

President Reagan and his wife welcomed Mr and Mrs Gorbachov in a formal ceremony that was marked by dignity, occasion and a palpable sense of history and superpower responsibility for the peace of the world.

As the Soviet leader's bullet-proof Russian limousine drew up promptly at 10.00am, President Reagan, in a black coat with a white silk scarf, stepped forward to shake hands at the start of their third summit meeting. Mr Gorbachov chatted with easy affability as he and the President mounted the small podium set up on the lawn.

Marine guards, crisply turned out in dress uniform, presented arms, the Soviet and US national anthems were played and a 21-gun salute was fired — the traditional greeting for a head of state, although Mr Gorbachov, as party secretary, technically does not qualify.

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Face to face: Mr Gorbachov and President Reagan at the welcoming ceremonies with full military honours in Washington.

## INF inspectors face huge task

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The small print of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty signed in Washington yesterday revealed in detail the enormity of the task now confronting the United States and the Soviet Union over the next three years.

The data which the Russians have recently supplied show that there are 120 missile sites to be covered by the treaty and are thus open to US inspection under the verification procedures. The United States, by comparison, has about 25 sites, including eight in Europe.

The wording of the crucial "Inspection Protocol", attached to the treaty, allows a period of just 60 days for both sides to carry out a baseline inspection of all the sites, to count the missiles against the figures supplied in the data exchanges.

After the US Senate has ratified the treaty, there will be a formal ratification ceremony between the Americans and

Russians, followed by a period of 30 days when both sides will prepare themselves for the challenge ahead. On Day 30, the inspection teams will set off to visit all the sites. The Russians have spread their SS 20 missile sites all over the Soviet Union, so the American inspectors will go on a grand tour of the country.

The listed US and Soviet sites include the two non-INF production facilities which are described as potential "suspect sites". These are the Soviet SS 25 missile production plant at Volkovsk and the American MX missile plant at Minuteman in Utah. American and Soviet permanent monitoring teams will stay for a minimum of three years outside the plants. Housing will be supplied.

During the crucial 60 days of baseline inspection, two teams of Russian inspectors will arrive by Il'yushin jet to check on Greenham Common in Berkshire and Molesworth

in Cambridgeshire. They will land at the Greenham Common airfield and be taken by coach to Molesworth.

Under the missile phasing agreement reached between the United States and the British Government, the 16 operational cruise missiles at Molesworth will be among the first of the Euro-missiles to go back to the US for destruction at the "elimination facility" which will be built at the US Army base at Tooele in Utah.

The 96 cruise missiles at Greenham Common will be phased out "flight by flight" (there are 16 in each flight). The final flight of 16 will be among the last to go. This is because the Americans want to keep as many "operational units" as possible in different locations until the three-year elimination period is over. The Government intends to continue training exercises with married cruise missile convoys away from their bases

until they are withdrawn from Britain.

The other European basing countries, West Germany, Italy and Belgium (the fifth, The Netherlands, has not installed any missiles) are now consulting with the Americans over their position in the order of missile withdrawal.

Destruction of missiles can begin once both sides are satisfied with their baseline inspections. Since the Russians have so many more missiles to eliminate (2,000 to the Americans' 800), in the first six months, when the US and Soviet Union will be allowed to destroy by launching (without the warheads), American satellites will carry the burden of monitoring the rockets. No more than four missiles can be launched in one day. The warheads themselves will not be destroyed. The fissile material and guidance

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## US retains a healthy scepticism

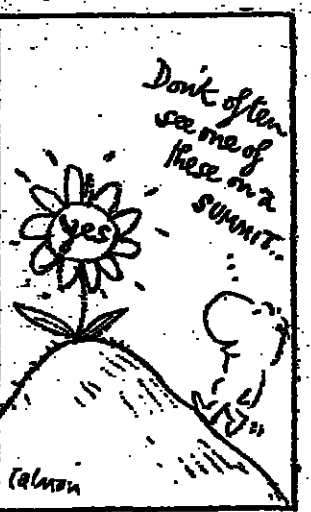
From Frank Johnson Washington

The American people are being browbeaten into being "positive" about everything to do with their illustrious Soviet visitor.

But the American people are, anyway, "positive" by nature. Happily, there is no sign so far that they are being over-positive about this Russian. They do not always do what those who claim to farm their opinions tell them. Otherwise they would not have twice elected Mr Reagan. Politicians, television newscasters and newspaper editors would be about, say, Mother Teresa. In so far as it is possible to judge what the effect is on the majority of Americans, it is reassuring.

True, American pop singers on recent visits to the Soviet Union are depicted embracing those dreary Russian folk dancers. But most Americans are not pop singers. When more typical Americans are allowed their say they express

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## IN PART 2

### Offer by BP

BP is making a tender offer for up to 29.9 per cent of British oil after netting a 12 per cent stake in a dawn raid. Page 25

### Gatting clash

Mike Gatting, the England cricket captain, again clashed with a Pakistani umpire in the second Test match. Page 44

### Degree list

University of London degrees are published today. Page 19

### Portfolio

● Yesterday's £8,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner on Monday, was shared by two readers. Details, page 3. ● Portfolio list, page 31.

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## Church meeting may reveal reason for canon's suicide

By Clifford Longley, Mark Ellis, Craig Seton and David Cross

The Church of England may learn on Thursday why Dr Gareth Bennett, the canon and Oxford don widely believed to have been the author of last week's anonymous attack on the Archbishop of Canterbury, committed suicide.

He was found dead in his car at his home in Oxfordshire on Monday night. A pipe had been connected from the exhaust to the interior.

Dr Bennett, a bachelor, had lived alone in a modern semi-detached house at New Marston since his mother died 10 years ago. His body was discovered in his garage by his next door neighbour, Mr Harold Cooper.

There is now growing pressure from all quarters on the secretary general of the General Synod, Mr Derek Pattinson, who handled the controversial preface to 'Crockford's Clerical Directory', to reveal all to a synod policy

Dr Bennett was the author of the preface to Crockford's Clerical Directory, Church of England officials told the Press Association last night. Their statement said: "In view of statements attributed to the Oxford canon's staff, the General Synod and the Secretary of the Church Commissioners confirm that they invited Dr Gareth Bennett in February, 1987, to write the preface to the 1987/88 Crockford's Clerical Directory. In accordance with Crockford's tradition, the preface as published was the text as he gave it to them."

A committee meeting on Thursday. The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, has insisted that the matter be placed on the agenda.

A reminder of the pressure Dr Bennett may have been under came in a statement

from the Archbishop of York's office yesterday. It confirmed that questions surrounding the preface would be on the agenda of Thursday's meeting. Dr Bennett was a member of the synod policy sub-committee and would have been expected to attend the meeting himself, and sit through an acrimonious discussion.

Dr Bennett was a leading member of the General Synod of the Church of England.

Yesterday, there were demonstrations of respect for him from friends and opponents alike. The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Rev Richard Harries, described Dr Bennett as "a distinguished church historian with a profound sense of, and concern for Anglican tradition and its integrity".

The Dean of Winchester, the Very Rev Trevor Beeson, said the whole affair had been

Continued on page 24, col 3

## BBC 'cleared' on first of spy series

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The Government was dealt a blow last night by the secretary of the Defence, Press and Broadcasting (D-Notice) committee who effectively cleared the first of the banned BBC programmes about the security services.

Admiral William Higgins wrote to the BBC to say he was as reassured as he could be that the first of the programmes in the series, *My Country, Right or Wrong*, did not pose a threat to national security.

BBC lawyers will use Admiral Higgins' letter in the High Court today when they seek to have the injunction gained by the Attorney General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, banning the Radio 4 series, overturned.

Admiral Higgins made his views known in a letter to Mr John Wilson, the BBC's controller of editorial policy, after a meeting on Tuesday

with Mr Wilson and Miss Anne Sloan, editor of the banned series.

Admiral Higgins said in the letter: "I have now considered fully all that you have told me about the first episode of the series and although, needless to say, I cannot be absolutely sure that there is no risk of damage to national security without seeing a transcript of the programme, my reassurance is as nearly complete as it can be on that basis and without knowing the names."

"I therefore have no advice to offer you concerning the first episode. This of course in no way implies any official clearance or approval of the programme."

The decision by Admiral Higgins not to offer advice is crucial because it means he is not suggesting the initial programme should be modified, and therefore, by implication, believes it is "safe".

It is believed to be Sotheby's policy that if an Old Master comes up at regional valuation days, the valuer asks the owner to leave the painting behind in order to show it to a specialist at head office.

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## Painting valued at £400 goes for £847,000

By Sarah Jane Checkland Art Market Correspondent

A painting valued at £400 by Sotheby's in the summer was sold for £847,000 by the rival auctioneers Phillips yesterday.

The painting, by Annibale Carracci, dated 1585, was bought for £5 in 1930 by the grandfather of the woman who put it up for sale.

The woman, who was not named, is the wife of a Dorset designer. She was quoted by Phillips in the catalogue as saying she was "in a state of shock" over the price.

The woman took it to Sotheby's valuation department in Bournemouth, which valued it at £400, saying there was not much of a market for religious paintings.

She then took the painting to Phillips, who first attributed it to the little-known artist, Sisto Badalocchio, and estimated its value at £8,000.

It was bought on the telephone by Mr Richard Feigen, the New York dealer, who sent the price spiralling on behalf of an American museum.

Mr Peter Johnson, of Phillips, which placed a £200,000 estimate on the painting, said: "Luckily we re-attributed it in time."

The 31in by 25in painting, in glowing, roseate colours, was thought at first to have been the work of a pupil of the Old Master.

Mr Johnson said: "It took two months before we cracked it. The picture is rather gruesome and is not everyone's cup of tea."

The price paid for the painting, which portrays the Holy Family, with the infant St John toying with Christ's toes and St Lucy proffering her attributes — martyred eyes — on a plate, was a record for Phillips and for the artist.

Sotheby's auction at Chester, only to be reconsigned by the buyer to Christie's Old Master sale this Friday with an estimate of £400,000, the financial rewards for the Carracci will go to the original owner.

Sotheby's said: "We cannot make any comment because it has all been rather sprung on us. This has come like a bolt out of the blue. We will be looking into the matter."

It is believed to be Sotheby's policy that if an Old Master comes up at regional valuation days, the valuer asks the owner to leave the painting behind in order to show it to a specialist at head office.

The company often points out that, if the painting is a copy, it will be worth only £400 to £500.



## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Brady makes last visit to the moor

Ian Brady, the Moors murderer, was given a final chance yesterday to show police where he buried Keith Bennett, aged 12, in 1964. For the second time in six months Brady walked across Saddleworth Moor and attempted to pinpoint where the schoolboy has lain undetected for more than two decades.

He spent 12 hours on the moors, concentrating on the Shiny Brook area, after being escorted from Park Lane Special Hospital on Merseyside and arriving on the moor at 5am. Three decoys were used by police to distract the attention of possible assailants. Leading the search team was Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, head of Greater Manchester CID, who twice during the past week has visited Brady.

## Searching for keys for crash

Bristol detectives searching for Mrs Shirley Banks yesterday began checking dozens of garages as the public responded to calls for help in identifying four keys linked to the missing woman.

The keys were displayed on Monday alongside a picture of an unnamed man. Detectives want to know of his whereabouts between January last year and this October.

By last night more than 450 calls had been received by the Avon and Somerset police, including one from France and another from West Germany.

## Jail hostage attempt

Masked inmates at Barlinnie Prison, Glasgow, failed in an attempt to take a prison officer hostage, a prison source said yesterday.

Mr Bill Goodall, deputy general secretary of the Scottish Prison Officers' Association, said the officer was attacked by four prisoners armed with chair legs before lock-up on Monday night.

He said that the officer managed to fight the inmates off before fellow officers came to his aid.

The Scottish Office said yesterday that five officers and one prisoner received treatment for minor injuries. The police are investigating.

## Offer to Lawley

Sue Lawley, the broadcaster, has been offered the job of presenter of BBC Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs* in succession to Michael Parkinson.

He took over in January last year after the death of the programme's creator, Roy Plomley, who interviewed 1,790 people in 43 years.

Mr Parkinson has asked to be taken off the programme and his successor starts next March. His style has been criticized by Mr Plomley's widow, Diana, who yesterday welcomed the offer to Miss Lawley.



## TV reforms accepted

Television technicians voted yesterday to accept reforms to end many "Spanish practices". The vote, by 300 members of the ACTT at Scottish Television, comes after 16 months of talks. Three other unions have yet to decide.

Management and secretaries operated cameras at TV-am in London to put out a half-hour live programme hosted by Anne Diamond for the second day running. No talks are planned with the technicians who struck two weeks ago over manning levels.

## Kasparov close to retaining his title

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Seville

Gary Kasparov, the title holder, held Anatoly Karpov to a draw in game 21 to move closer to retaining the world chess championship.

A score of 12 points from the total of 24 games will guarantee that the champion holds on to the title.

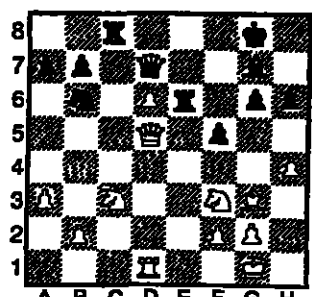
Karpov, playing white, decided once again to test Kasparov's favourite Grünfeld defence and introduced an innovation on move 14 which varied from his play in game 15.

However, Kasparov was equal to the task and devised a plan which neutralized the white initiative.

Black's counterplay culminated in the tactical coup 19...Nd3. This bold knight could not be captured since the pawn thrust...c4 would then win material.

In due course Karpov was obliged to sacrifice his rook for the intrusive black knight but white obtained tremendous compensation in the shape of an advanced pawn in the centre of the board.

With time trouble approaching both players aban-



done their winning attempts and acquiesced in a draw by repetition of position on move 28.

The result is something of a disappointment for Karpov, who has to win one of the final three games to seize the title from his rival.

Game 22 is set for today, with Kasparov playing white.

White	Black	15 Rd2	Nd4
1 d4	Nf6	16 Qd3	Be6
2 c4	g6	17 Be4	Nb6
3 Nc3	Bg7	18 Bb3	Rd8
4 Nf3	Bg7	19 a3	Nd3
5 Qc3	d6	20 Bg2	O-O
6 Qxd4	O-O	21 Qd2	Re8
7 e4	Nd6	22 Rad1	Qc7
8 Be2	c5	23 b4	h5
9 f5	cxd4	24 Rxd3	cxh3
10 g4	exd4	25 Qxd3	Nd4
11 exd5	Bf5	26 Qd5	Nb6
12 Rd1	Re8	27 Qd3	Nc4
13 Qd5	Nd7	28 Qd5	Nb6
14 Bf4	Nd7		Draw

## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

With sincere thanks for the enfolded relief and the many last comforts you kindly helped to provide, we wish all our good friends a truly splendid Christmas.

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## Law Society split on inspection of land register

By Frances Gibb  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society of England and Wales is divided over whether to back Lord Templeman's private Bill to open up the Land Register to public inspection.

The issue, which has been the subject of heated disagreement within Law Society committees, will come to a head tomorrow when a report is put before the society's council meeting.

That will recommend that the society rescinds its present policy of opposition and informs the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, that it has no objection to public inspection.

Lord Templeman, a law lord, introduced his Bill to amend the Land Registration Act 1925 last month. It received its second reading on November 25.

The Bill, which intends that "the register of title of freehold land and leasehold land kept

at Her Majesty's Land Registry should become public", is based on a Law Commission report of 1984.

The Law Society and the Country Landowners' Association have been the chief opponents of the Law Commission's recommendations, arguing that an open register will make frauds easier.

They say it would enable wrongdoers to obtain land or charge certificates and deal with the property, for example, to obtain a loan on the

security of it, particularly where the owner was absent.

The society's standing committee on land law and conveyancing does not oppose opening the register, while the business committee has strong views for and against.

Last June the society's secretary general, Mr John Hayes, wrote to Lord Templeman saying that the council committee remained divided but would be making a final decision on whether to

oppose the Bill "when the time comes".

Opponents of the Bill also argue the register was introduced on the basis that strict confidentiality was observed and to open it would be a breach of faith; and that to open the register would discriminate between the owners of registered and unregistered land.

Those in favour say that almost all other countries with land registration systems have

open and unrestricted access: ownership of land in Scotland, for instance, is a public matter.

They also say an open register would help redevelopment by making it easier to contact the owners of vacant or derelict land and would make conveyancing easier.

They point out that other registers are open, such as those on planning applications, companies, proved wills and letters of administration.

## Health cash to be queried in top level investigation

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

MPs will tonight agree an urgent top-level parliamentary inquiry into all aspects of the funding of the National Health Service.

Members of the all-party Social Services select committee are determined to get to the root of the paradox that the health service is in crisis despite record government expenditure in real terms.

Yesterday the Prime Minister defended the Government's record on the health service. In a letter to Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the opposition, she said expenditure on the health service had risen from £8 billion in 1978-79 to £21 billion in 1987-88; outpatient attendances from 3 million to 38 million last year, heart by-pass operations from 265 a month to 880 and hip replacements from 2,300 to 3,100.

Among the first witnesses the select committee is likely to call are the presidents of the three Royal Colleges of medicine who issued a statement at the weekend bitterly denouncing the Government's attitude to the health service. It will also want to question ministers, top health service officials and other involved parties.

Acknowledging that the future of the National Health Service is now the dominant political issue of the moment, the committee will want the inquiry to begin before Christmas if possible, and to be concluded within a matter of months.

The inquiry is likely to be one of the most objective to date on this highly contentious subject.

Mr Frank Field, the Labour MP who is likely to be elected committee chairman, is estranged from his own Whigs because of his notorious independence. The two senior Tories on the committee, Sir David Price and Mr Nicholas Winter, are both deeply concerned about the present state of the health service.

Mr Winter was one of 10 Tories who abstained on Monday night on government measures to impose charges for dental and eye tests.

The inquiry is likely to pay special attention to means of topping up government funding such as special taxes on tobacco and alcohol or state lotteries.

The committee had already decided to investigate the management of the health service when the general election intervened, and this inquiry is seen as a natural extension of that. Committee members hope that it will trigger a number of further inquiries into specific aspects of the health service to be pursued later in the Parliament.

Meanwhile Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said she wanted a growth in private health care treatment with people who could afford it seeking health care outside the health service.

## Fresh approach to crime punishment

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government is developing a "two-track" approach to the sentencing of criminals: a stiffer prison term for serious crimes, matched with tough "community" punishments for less serious, non-violent offences.

Faced with serious overcrowding in British prisons, Mr John Patten, Minister of State in the Home Office, announced yesterday that he was reviewing the scope of community service orders as an alternative to jail sentences.

"We must get away from the idea that the only punishment that counts is prison", he told Conservatives in Cambridge. "Long sentences in custody

should be imposed on those who resort to violence, to deter others and to protect society. But imprisonment should equally be used sparingly. We need to continue to strengthen the idea of punishment in the community."

Non-custodial sentences should be a viable form of punishment, respected by magistrates, the public and offenders alike.

Ministers had never argued that the courts should be constrained in their sentencing by prison overcrowding. However, with nearly 55,000 people in jail, it was only sensible to note the pressure under which the prison system had to operate.

## Last-ditch bid by SAS

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Mr Jan Carlzon, president of the Scandinavian airline SAS, is to fly to London today in a last-ditch attempt to produce an acceptable bid for British Caledonian.

Talks between SAS and its bankers dragged on yesterday as a detailed proposal was drawn up to overcome the objections of the Civil Aviation Authority.

The authority had been expecting a visit by SAS officials yesterday afternoon, but the meeting was cancelled at the last moment.

Last night, however, SAS officials were adamant that the deal was not on the brink of collapse, and that they had simply been indulging in "fine-tuning".

The arrival of Mr Carlzon today to bolster the negotiating team will give an added boost to the SAS bid.

British Airways, however, remains quietly confident that its offer will be approved.

The UK carrier will not increase its bid, which remains on the table, unless SAS puts forward a firm proposal.

## Section 2 challenge by Tory

A Bill repealing Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act was unveiled yesterday in spite of the Prime Minister's objections that a private member's Bill should not amend law in areas affecting state security (Richard Ford writes).

Sponsors are confident of all-party support at next month's second reading but the Government intends to kill the Bill by mobilizing the votes of ministers and parliamentary private secretaries.

The Bill, sponsored by Mr Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Aldridge Brownhills, would replace Section 2 with categories of information that would remain classified and protected by criminal sanctions.

## Explorers find blood of Maya king

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

The preserved blood of an ancient Maya king who died 1,280 years ago has been found in a ceremonial offering excavated in Central America. It formed part of a cache that included jade objects that were heirlooms when the offering was made.

The discovery was made during excavations at the Maya site of Copan in Honduras, first explored 150 years ago and the source of some of the British Museum's collection. A test pit had been sunk at the base of the hieroglyphic staircase, a monumental inscription of AD 756 in the form of a stairway leading up to a temple dedicated to the theme of war and sacrifice.

Mr David Stuart, a Princeton University undergraduate who was supervising the excavation, had extended it below an altar which stood in the bottom step, and there found a pottery vessel.

It contained two curved jades, four sting-ray spines, an implement used by the ancient Maya to pierce their bodies and draw blood for offerings, and a shell

of the thorax oyster *Spondylus*. The shell contained a reddish-brown cake and laminated material, which has been confirmed as blood.

The dried blood is too denatured to allow genetic fingerprinting or blood-grouping, according to Dr William Fash, the project director.

He believes that it was shed by the ruler of Copan in a dedication ceremony for the hieroglyphic staircase, which has a text detailing the genealogy of the kings of Copan, and which was built after a previous ruler had been captured and sacrificed by the ruler of the neighbouring city of Quirigua.

The two jades from the offering date to between AD 250 and 600, being in the Early Classic style. One is a seated figure, probably a high-status person and possibly an earlier ruler of Copan. The other has a serpentine figure on one side and a deity with attributes of the sun god on the other.

## British Rail deaths

## Track workers hit by train

An investigation was underway last night into the deaths of four British Rail workers who were killed by a passenger train yesterday as they carried out track maintenance.

It was claimed that the men would not have heard the 10.43am Leeds-Sheffield diesel train as they were wearing ear protectors to deafen the noise of electric hammers on the line near Normanton, West Yorkshire.

Warning of approaching trains should have been signalled by lookouts on both sides of the line. The lookouts are equipped with remote-control equipment to cut off power to the hammers and a device which emits a high-pitched sound in the ear protectors of the workmen.

Those killed were Mr Roy Wilkinson, aged 47, of Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and Mr William Bradley, aged 43, Mr Anthony David Richards, aged 45, and Mr James Lyons, aged 54, all of Normanton.

Two survivors of the accident were being questioned by British Rail investigators.

The crew were working at a set of points where freight and passenger lines cross at Methley junction, nine miles south-west of Leeds. Visibility was said to be excellent.

It is understood that no warning had been given to the train driver that maintenance work was being carried out on the straight stretch of track, which has a 75mph speed limit.

The train, which was carrying 20 passengers, was running 10 minutes late when the accident happened.

British Rail Eastern Region said: "We are mystified as to how and why such an appalling tragedy has occurred. Our job now is to investigate the facts to ensure such a tragic event does not take place again."

"What happened is a tragedy at any time of the year, but coming so close to Christmas makes it even worse."

Mr David Brown, secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen at Normanton engineering works, where the men were based, said they had each served an average of 17 years. Three were married and one was divorced.

## Support for research urged

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain faces an economic catastrophe if a decline in support for scientific research continues, an Oxford University professor said last night.

Professor Denis Noble, a specialist in cardiovascular research and a founder member of the Save British Science campaign, said the United States invested far more public money in science.

He said scientific discoveries would stop if the Government did not increase support for university re-

search. Industry should invest twice as much in research and development to keep abreast of international competitors.

He said the decline in support for science was reflected in a drop of 10 per cent in A level science candidates over the past two years.

The number of science graduates going into commerce and the City from Oxford increased from more than 12 per cent to more than 23 per cent, while the number entering industry fell from nearly 25 per cent to less than 15 per cent.

It was about 10 times the cost of basic research.

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The cost to industry of developing a marketable prod-

## US killing link with IRA group

Murder squad detectives in Rochester, New York state, are investigating the fatal shooting of a Belfast man linked with Noraid, the IRA's fund-raising front in the United States.

The body of Damien McCintyre, aged 38, will be flown to Northern Ireland this week for burial at the Rock cemetery, Stonyford, near Lisburn, Co Antrim.

He was found dead with six bullet wounds last week outside the Genesee brewery, Rochester, where he worked as a plant supervisor.

Police said yesterday that there were no witnesses to the shooting and have asked the Royal Ulster Constabulary for assistance.



# Errors in operating theatres may claim 1,000 lives a year

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Up to 1,000 hospital patients may die each year because of errors of judgement by surgeons and anaesthetists, a confidential inquiry within the medical profession has found.

Many of the deaths are among elderly patients and are due to surgeons carrying out operations for which they are not qualified or are inadequately trained. Some of the operations are unnecessary and are carried out by junior doctors without seeking advice from consultants; the inquiry reported yesterday.

Strict guidelines are likely to be introduced because of the investigation, the biggest of its kind. Mr Anthony Newton, Minister for Health, said that the Department of Health and Social Security would study the report in detail and seek to discuss it with health authorities and the medical professions.

A national assessment of the quality of clinical practice is to be set up next year. The estimated total of avoidable deaths is based on information from 900 hospital consultants in three English health regions. The report into peri-operative deaths, published by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust and the King's Fund, looked at cases during a 12-month period in the Northern, South-western and North-east Thames regions.

It found that of more than half a million operations carried out, 4,034 patients, most of them elderly, died within a month. It concluded that 195 deaths involved failure of surgeons to provide optimal care, and three others were the responsibility of anaesthetists.

The overall death rate was calculated at only 0.7 per cent of operations. Deaths attributable solely to avoidable surgical or anaesthetic factors occurred in a "very small proportion" of these cases.

Organizers of the inquiry described this as "reassuring". However, they found that

some consultants carried out operations that were outside their known specialty.

"Equally worrying are instances of out-dated or inappropriate operations being performed by consultants, or their juniors, who are undertaking work for which they have no particular expertise."

"General surgeons undertaking non-urgent brain surgery or doing skilled urology... gynaecologists doing vascular surgery and orthopaedic surgeons doing bowel surgery are examples that are difficult

Specialist care units turned away 93 premature babies last year and 24 subsequently died, according to a study at Oxford University.

The national study, to be published next January, shows that maternity hospitals needing to transfer premature babies for specialist treatment were often unable to find free neonatal cots, mainly because of nursing shortages. Most of the deaths took place in two regions, South East Thames and North Western.

The survey was set up by Dr Neil McIntosh, a consultant paediatrician, after a pilot study in two London health regions showed eight of 14 babies died after being turned away from specialist units.

"We are concerned that many of the cases of patients who were critically ill were operated on by junior staff without prior consultation with the consultant surgeon in charge."

"We are similarly concerned that many operations were undertaken by surgeons too junior and too inexperienced to do the job. Mistakes were frequently made by these surgeons."

The inquiry found instances of "grave failure of supervision" in big district general and metropolitan teaching hospitals. "There seems to be little excuse for large hospitals

## Bennett unhappy over rumours

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs  
Correspondent

The tragedy of Dr Gary Bennett began even before the publication of the controversial preface, when an intense hunt broke out in the church for the possible author.

The clues were plain enough, and churchmen were happy to offer suggestions, usually in detail, to journalists and to each other. Lines were hot, and comments sometimes mischievous. But the trouble facing both journalists and churchmen was that the obvious candidates almost all died by the end of the day, and by the weekend even the more mercurial ones had done so.

The writer enjoyed central connections in the General Synod, that was plain. He (or she) either was or had been one of the 18 elected members of the synod's standing committee, its inner cabinet; and was a member of, or very close to, the Crown Appointments Commission, of whom six are elected at any one time, three clergy and three lay.

There is a circle of people who know something of the business of these two bodies without belonging to them, but the field was not large, and a proportion of it could be eliminated for obvious reasons.

For it was apparent that the writer was an Anglo-Catholic, a party which usually accounts for about a third of central church bodies. It was widely suspected that the writer was a clergyman, indeed some said a disappointed clergyman who felt frustrated in his career. The style was literate but not fancy, and the mind which had organized the facts was a trained one, therefore probably an academic.

But it was virtually taken for granted that any possible author who denied it was telling the truth. What was conspicuously absent from such talk was the traditional reaction of churchmen when the authorship of the Crookford's preface has been canvassed in earlier years — a closing of ranks to protect the author's traditional anonymity.

It was generally said that in the interests of the church, the authorship should, this time, become known and the name of Dr Bennett was heard time and again, in places as widely dispersed as Winchester, Newcastle, and Lambeth Palace — though Dr Runcie himself maintained a dignified silence. I was, perhaps, the first journalist to approach Dr Bennett, and his denial was unequivocal: he did not know what was in the preface.

He told me he had already had queries from churchmen — the preface had been circulating among a small circle some days before publication — and he was unhappy on being told that his name was being mentioned.

Last Wednesday, after hearing his courteous denial, we chatted briefly about the most recent time we had met. I had read a paper at a theological seminar at Fussy House, was fond, about two weeks before, and Dr Bennett had attended and contributed to the discussion.

The following day, having heard his name was men-



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Runcie, with Mr Derek Pattinson, the secretary general of the Church Synod, at Church House yesterday after the news of Dr Bennett's death.

## The anonymous attack that sparked Runcie controversy

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The anonymous preface to Crookford's Clerical Directory, which was published last Thursday morning, contained an unprecedented attack on the competence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie.

Having praised Dr Runcie's personal warmth, intelligence, and capacity for hard work, and remarked that his influence was probably at its height, the preface went on to say: "It would therefore be good to be assured that he actually knew what he was doing, and had a clear basis for his policies other than taking the line of least resistance on each issue."

His greatest disadvantage was that he was not a trained theologian, and he had the desire to "put off all questions until someone else makes a decision". Dr Runcie was "usually to be found nailing his colours to the fence".

In a separate section, the preface writer claimed that Dr Runcie used his influence to advance the careers in the church of those with whom he had been connected in the past. "A

brief biographical study will reveal the remarkable manner in which careers of so many bishops have crossed the career of Dr Runcie as students or colleagues at Westcott House and Cuddesdon (two theological colleges), as incumbents or suffragans in the diocese of St Albans or Canterbury, or as persons working in religious broadcasting at a time when he was chairman of the Central Religious Advisory Committee of the BBC and the IBA."

It was clearly unacceptable, the preface said, that so many of those promoted were the protégés of one man, and reflected his own ecclesiastical outlook.

But most of the 18-page document was taken up with a trenchant analysis of the state of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, painting a bleak picture of its internal tensions and unresolved problems, particularly over the ordination of women. It offered three areas of interest for the church in England to pursue: in the inner cities, in rural areas, and among black Christians.

attack on Dr Runcie in a public statement, calling it "a scurrilous... sour and vindictive" attack.

But reports of Dr Bennett's involvement persisted over the weekend. One friend of his, Canon George Austin of Watford, remarked that if he was not the author he must surely have had a hand in it, whether knowingly or not.

Most poignantly of all, the Rev David Holloway of Newcastle had tried to ring him over the weekend and again on Monday night, to offer him support and to talk over tactics for Thursday's meeting.

That was what he was ringing to tell him.

## Portfolio Gold—Share deal appeals to winner

Mrs Mossa Connor, a former schoolteacher, may invest part of her £4,000 Portfolio Gold win on the Stock Exchange.

"I'll see if I can invest about £1,000," she said last night. Mrs Connor, aged 59, of Doshill, Tamworth, Staffordshire, who has three children and four grandchildren, added: "I will also try to treat my family as well as Christmas."

She shares yesterday's daily prize — worth double the usual amount as there was no winner the previous day — with Mr Paul Dowdeswell, aged 38, of Grovelands, Kidlington, Oxford. He is a quality control auditor at Austin Rover.

Mr Dowdeswell and his wife Jennifer may spend some of their £4,000 winnings treating friends after returning from a Tunisian holiday.

Mrs Dowdeswell said: "This win is such a surprise to us. We really have not taken it in. But we do not often win things so we will give it plenty of thought."

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,  
The Times,  
PO Box 40,  
Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

## Dismissed man killed his family

An engineer dismissed from work under suspicion of theft killed his wife and children before committing suicide, an inquest was told yesterday.

Before the killings, Mr Rod Shirley, aged 44, enacted an elaborate charade to hide from his family the truth about his dismissal from Massey Ferguson.

He hired a car and continued to leave his house each day as if he were still employed, the inquest, at Leamington Spa, was told. He spent his days at roadside lay-bys.

Then in August, he battered his wife Diane, aged 43, and their children Paul, aged 20, and Kathryn, aged 17, to death with a hammer at their home in Warwickshire.

He then went to the River Avon about seven miles from his home, tied tractor weights to his wrists and drowned himself. The coroner recorded verdicts of unlawful killing of the family, and of suicide regarding Mr Shirley.

Mr Shirley's son, aged 13, died of carbon monoxide poisoning after the boy's mother left them, an inquest at Whiston, Merseyside, was told yesterday.

Police found the bodies of Mr Ronald Alcock, aged 43, and his son Paul, of Kirby, Merseyside, inside a car in July. A hose had been fed from the exhaust into the car through a side window.

A verdict of suicide was recorded on the father, and an open verdict on the son.

## Girl friend wins back Porsche

A model was entitled to a Porsche given to her by a former boy friend, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

Mr Farrah Safinya had sold the car after an argument with Miss Rachel Younger, but Mr Justice Michael Davies ruled that he must pay her its £11,500 value, plus interest.

Mr Safinya, a designer, of Kensington Church Street, west London, had "showered other gifts on her", including clothes worth £1,000 and a credit card, the judge said.

He did not believe that the car was only on loan to Miss Younger, aged 28.

## Drink-drive campaign

# Magistrates 'too lenient'

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Magistrates were criticized by a chief constable yesterday for being too lenient on drink-drivers, while a hospital consultant said that drunken motorists were filling beds needed badly by the sick and elderly.

As the Government launched its Christmas anti-drink driving campaign with the warning that 1,500 people would be killed and injured by the new year, Mr John Over, chief constable for Gwent, said no driver had ever received the maximum penalty of six months imprisonment and/or a £2,000 fine.

Mr Over, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' traffic committee, said that the average fine for drinking and driving was £174.

"People should be dealt with more seriously. The penalties are there but they are not being used. I would like to see magistrates being more strict. The courts have to begin to face their responsibilities and put away people who should not be on the streets and make sure it has a real deterrent effect."

The Magistrates' Association said magistrates were often inhibited by the ruling that they must take the means of the offender into account and the ability to pay off the fine within 12 months.

Mr Howard Bademan, consultant surgeon at University College Hospital, where the government campaign was launched, pleaded for a cut in drink-drive casualties to relieve the pressure on beds in the health service.

He said beds which could be used for people with heart failure, children, the elderly and cancer patients were being taken up by accident victims, many of whom were drink-drivers. "Patients are being turned away at the hospital

lieve the pressure on beds in the health service."

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The Welsh were revealed yesterday as Britain's biggest sufferers from hangovers (Edward Townsend writes).

More than 40 per cent of drinkers in Wales admit over-indulgence, compared to a national average of 31 per cent. People aged 16 to 24 had the worst record, with 53 per cent admitting morning-after headaches.

A Gallup survey showed 34 per cent of Britons prefer black coffee as the antidote to alcohol; water was the second favourite "cure". Fruit juice was chosen by 10 per cent, while milk was the favourite of 8 per cent. More alcohol was the choice of 9 per cent nationally, but by 20 per cent of the Welsh.

door because their bed was taken the night before by an accident victim."

At University College Hospital, which treated many victims of the King's Cross Underground fire, up to 10 beds a day could be freed if drunk drivers or their victims no longer required treatment.

Mr Over said that 78 per cent of all assaults were drink-related and many were against hospital staff. A big drop in

drink-driving would help hospital staff and the police.

Between December 9 and 18 full-page advertisements will appear in all national daily newspapers showing an empty hospital bed with the caption: "Before you give a driver a drink, think where it might lead."

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, said people should plan in three extra ways at Christmas: groups to decide in advance who will be driving; order a taxi or a mini-cab to get home from parties if there is no one else to drive you; have a good supply of low or non-alcoholic drinks if you are entertaining.

This year's campaign has been marked by a big increase in privately-sponsored promotions. Courage, the brewers, were praised by Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary for Roads and Traffic, for television commercials against drinking and driving it will launch next week. Youngs, the south-west London brewery, is giving free bus passes to customers over Christmas.

A police constable had a blood alcohol level of more than three times the legal limit when he crashed his car into a double-deck bus and taxi, York magistrates heard yesterday.

Anthony Thackeray, aged 29, of York, admitted driving while drunk and failing to stop after an accident and being drunk and incapable two months before the motoring offences. Sentence was adjourned.

They were Mr John Ford, father of Miss Sharon Ford, and Mr John Urbanaki, husband of Mrs Jacqueline Urbanaki.

The same medals went to Miss Joanna Toff, an air stewardess, Mr Arthur Bradbury, the aircraft purser, and two airport firemen, Mr Sam Lytle and Mr Eric Westwood.

## Medals go to heroes of jet fire

Families of two air stewardesses who died trying to save passengers in the aircraft fire at Manchester airport which killed 55 people in 1985 were presented with Queen's Gallantry Medals by the Queen yesterday.

They were Mr John Ford, father of Miss Sharon Ford, and Mr John Urbanaki, husband of Mrs Jacqueline Urbanaki.

The same medals went to Miss Joanna Toff, an air stewardess, Mr Arthur Bradbury, the aircraft purser, and two airport firemen, Mr Sam Lytle and Mr Eric Westwood.



Miss Joanna Toff of Stockport, with her medal.

## Decision on Lewry reserved by judges

By Michael Horsnell

Captain David Lewry, former master of the ferry Herald of Free Enterprise, will know by Christmas whether his legal battle to take another ship to sea has succeeded.

Two High Court judges reserved judgement yesterday after a two-day hearing in which the captain appealed against the findings of the Zebrugga inquiry.

He is seeking to overturn the verdict that he was guilty of serious negligence — on the night last March when the ship capsized with the loss of 189 lives after sailing with her bow doors open — and the year's suspension of his certificate of competency.

Mr Justice Hirst, sitting with Mr Justice Phillips in the Admiralty Court, said that because of the matter's importance they would ensure judgement is given before the end of the legal term on December 21.

Captain Lewry's counsel, Miss Belinda Bucknall, urged the court to accept that others, including Townsend Thoresen, should share the blame.

But Mr John Reeder, for the Secretary of State for Transport, said the captain alone was responsible for the safety of his ship.

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## 'Art forger victim of success'

An artist who forged nineteenth-century paintings and a dealer who sold them at auction were trapped by their success, it was alleged yesterday.

Brian Moore painted marine scenes and Richard Tuckhead presented them for auction until one fetched nearly 20 times its reserve price, Bristol Crown Court was told.

The new owner, who paid more than £19,000, took it to a restorer who recognized it as a fake. The coastline, a ship, the signature and the inscription on the back had been copied from different works.

Mr Tuckhead, aged 49, of Whitley Road, Clifton, Bristol, and Mr Moore, aged 42, of Parry's Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, deny conspiracy, fraud and forgery charges. The case continues today.

## World records set by BR pension fund

The British Rail pension fund achieved two world records when it sold its collection of Japanese prints for £1,578,720 at Sotheby's yesterday, three times what it paid for the collection in the 1970s (estimate £800,000 to £950,000).

Top lot was the "Thirty-Six Views of Fuji" by Hokusai, which sold for £605,000 (estimate £320,000 to £380,000) to International Fine Art Consultants of Hong Kong.

It was a world record for a single lot of Japanese prints. A world record for any single Japanese work of art was achieved by an elegant portrait of Oshichi, a waitress from the tea-shop Takashimaya, by Utamaro, which sold for £220,000 (estimate up to £65,000) to an anonymous telephone buyer. This was twice the previous record for a single Japanese print.

Herr Joern Christiansen, the director of the Dortmund Museum is disputing the National Gallery's claim that the

winter landscape painting it has just bought for £1.5 million at Christie's Monaco is an original painting by Caspar David Friedrich.

He insists that his is the original. "It is very improbable that both paintings were done by Friedrich, because

they are so similar," he said, adding that Christie's attribution was "inadequate". He challenged the National Gallery to bring the two paintings together for comparison.

Christie's London had a successful sale of European sculpture and works of art yesterday, with 23 per cent unsold. Top price, paid by a New York dealer, was £159,500 for an early thirteenth century Limoges

enamel and gilt-copper box (estimate £100,000 to £150,000).

Christie's Monaco reported a record price for any lot of European furniture at its sale on Monday night, £1.6 million for a suite of four eighteenth century armchairs and a sofa

owned for generations by the Crozat family of France.

Mr Peter Hawkins, Christie's expert, said: "There were once six chairs, two sofas and two stools and they have all stayed in the family except for one stool, which is now in the Getty Museum." The Getty may well have wanted to buy the suite, but it had been declared a monument historique and was therefore banned from export.

It was bought by a French private buyer. The sale totalled £2.7 million, with 25 per cent unsold.

Also in Monaco, Sotheby's had a sensational sale of guns from the Charles Dracoger collection. Top lot among many which quipped their estimates was a rare cased set of French percussion duelling and pocket pistols which sold for £64,317.

The entire collection had been estimated at £1 million, but it fetched £1.6 million with all but 1.5 per cent sold.

At the Phillips sale in London, apart from the Annibale Carracci painting which went for £847,000, prices were run of the mill, the highest being £187,000 for a Dutch flower painting by Simon Pieter Verelst, which had been estimated at up to £60,000. The final total was £1.9 million, with 20 per cent unsold.

## Portman Interest Rates

The net rate of interest on current and discontinued investment accounts will be reduced by 1.00% with effect from 10 December 1987, with the exception of those listed below, where the rates from this date will be as indicated:

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## THE SUMMIT

## THE WASHINGTON SCENE

## Soviet visitors lionized like stars or British royalty

From Charles Bremner  
Washington

"It's just like *Amerika*", the Secret Service guard said, nodding at the hammer-and-sickle flying from the lamp-post as he watched colleagues salute two black Zil limousines with Moscow number plates pulling into the hotel garage on 16th Street.

*Amerika* was the television drama this year that so upset the Kremlin by depicting the United States under Soviet rule.

The Russians are everywhere in Washington, including about 130 KGB guards in their regulation synthetic mohair scarves and short minicosts. But in the glow of summit euphoria the Russians are being wooed and lionized with a fervour normally reserved for film stars and British royalty.

Invitations to the White House dinner were, as they say in New York, to kill for. The guest list, published for the curious in *The Washington Post* yesterday, included Dave Brubeck, James Stewart, Claudette Colbert and Mstislav Rostropovich, who lost his Soviet citizenship under Brezhnev.

In scenes straight out of *Ninotchka* — the Garbo classic about Russian innocents visiting Paris — Soviet officials and journalists are flooding the capital's elegant shops and restaurants and fending off invitations from the socialites scrambling to have a real Russian to dinner.

And in a curious reversal of the Moscow custom of excluding Russians from foreigners' hotels, Americans are being barred from a couple of the city's plushest hotels.

Hotel staff, trained how to say "Have a nice day" in Russian, were throwing out locals who ventured too close.

At one stage on Monday evening, a couple of Russians began handing their coats to a small old man standing in the lobby of the Madison Hotel, where Soviet VIPs are staying. An official pointed out

### 6 Socialites are just scrambling to have a real Russian to dinner

their mistake — the man was Dr Armand Hammer, the 89-year-old tycoon who has been doing business with the Kremlin since the days of Lenin.

Within hours of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's arrival, secretaries who landed on his plane were

combing through the shops of Georgetown still carrying London duty-free plastic bags.

With their \$20-a-day (£11) allowances, Soviet staff have been happily accepting invitations from local colleagues to conserve valuable hard currency for hi-fi stores and jeans shops. Russian journalists have been stripping the shelves of the Radio Shack computer shops near the press centre.

In a gesture of hospitality, the city restaurant that made news by pouring its vodka into the street after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has been offering Stolichnaya martinis. And the hotel housing the mammoth press centre has renamed its bars and restaurants "Café Glasnost".

But few of the Russians have taken up liquid hospitality. In

keeping with the new mineral-water Kremlin, they are staying out of the bars, or sipping lemonade.

This has not prevented a little surreptitious celebration. Russian staff have caused amazement at the Madison and Mayflower hotels by drinking dry the mini-bars in their rooms every day.

The Americans have been pay-

### 6 Armand Hammer was mistaken for a cloakroom attendant

ing the bill for this — a fact that irked Dan Rather, the senior television news "anchorman", who is still smarting from the Kremlin's refusal to accord him the Gorbachev interview.

"How could this happen?" he

asked after his breathless report of the Gorbachev arrival. "Welcome to history in the making," he proclaimed when Kremlin One, the Gorbachev flycatcher, touched down. The door opened and the first thing viewers saw was a stewardess clutching the inevitable plastic shopping bag.

In keeping with the show-business theme of the whole summit, one television commentator said that Mr Gorbachev, in his grey fedora, "looks just like Rod Steiger as he appeared in *On the Waterfront*".

Films have also entered the picture at the Soviet Embassy, where, incidentally, they had to cut out a section of the wrought-iron gate to allow Mr Gorbachev's limousine to enter the forecourt.

Mr Jack Valenti, head of the

Motion Picture Association, was asked to provide video-tapes of Hollywood films for the Gorbachev entourage. These included *Top Gun* and *Platoon*. Only a year ago the Russians were complaining about a poster for *Top Gun* — a film about a young pilot who takes on a Soviet fighter.

But not everyone is happy the Russians have come. Followers of Mr Lyndon LaRouche, the ultra-right politician, have put up posters of Mr Gorbachev that show his prominent birth mark with a quotation from *Revelations*: "Behold the man with the mark of the Beast".

And a trade union refused to take down a big Solidarity flag that it has flown opposite the Soviet Embassy since martial law was proclaimed in Poland in 1981.

## MOSCOW CLASHES

## Kremlin speaks up for KGB actions over Jewish protest

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

As Soviet Jews and Western journalists were roughed up by plain-clothes KGB agents and uniformed militiamen for the third successive day yesterday, the Soviet Foreign Ministry publicly defended the action which has cast an ugly shadow over the Washington summit meeting.

Hours after the latest clashes in blinding snow near the Foreign Ministry, its spokesman, Mr Yuri Gremitskikh, was involved in heated exchanges with Western journalists during a briefing at which he accused a senior US correspondent, Peter Arnett, of engaging in "hooliganism".

Mr Arnett, a former Pulitzer Prize winner, responded angrily, accusing the Soviet spokesman of pronouncing him guilty without listening to his own evidence. "In a civilized country, people are presumed innocent until found guilty," he said, to the considerable embarrassment of other Soviet officials present.

Mr Arnett, one of the most distinguished US journalists during the Vietnam War and now Moscow correspondent of CNN, alleged that he had not been able to present his own case during his detention last Sunday.

"I was just confronted with 10 men twice my size and about half my age who claimed I had assaulted them," he said.

The exchanges were some of the most bitter seen at the Foreign Ministry since it began pursuing its new open policy towards the Western media. They reflected deep concern and puzzlement about the daily displays of KGB violence, which, although at odds with Moscow's attempts to improve its human rights image, appear to be sanctioned at a high level.

Mr Gremitskikh was the first official to be questioned publicly about the attacks on Jewish demonstrators and Western reporters, which began on Sunday when Mr

Arnett was arrested after being attacked by a number of KGB men and accused of assaulting a Soviet citizen with his microphone.

The Soviet spokesman dismissed as provocateurs the Jewish demonstrators — who have repeatedly had banners demanding the right to leave for Israel ripped from their hands — although eye-witnesses saw clearly that on Sunday the violence was initiated by burly KGB men wielding peace banners.

"This was not a demonstration, it was pure provocation," claimed Mr Gremitskikh.

Moscow — Mr Boris Begun, the son of the leading Jewish dissident Mr Isidore Begun, said yesterday that he was giving up his fight to keep his Soviet citizenship on emigration and he, his wife and their two children would leave for Israel in January (Reuters reports). Isidore, who received an exit visa last month after a 16-year struggle, refused to leave until his son's problem was resolved. Isidore's wife and three children were expelled yesterday, but Boris said that it should be possible to prolong them.

Mr Arnett, who was challenged forcibly by a correspondent from Reuters when he claimed that the Jews had sabotaged a Soviet peace rally.

The journalist pointed out that the Jewish rally had been planned three weeks before it was decided, at 24 hours' notice, to organize a Soviet demonstration for peace in the same spot at the same hour.

Mr Gremitskikh made no effort to apologize for the rough treatment meted out by the KGB men, and he caused a gasp of astonishment from many of the hundreds of journalists present when he told them in schoolmasterly tones: "Civilized people in a civilized country during a civilized demonstration must behave in a civilized manner."

Western diplomats are

agreed that the daily clashes between the KGB, the handful of Jewish protesters, and Western reporters have made a mockery of *glasnost* at the Kremlin's publicity machine. "It shows that the KGB remains very much a law unto itself," one European envoy said.

The diplomats point out that a similar example of KGB violence against reporters and Jewish demonstrators took place in the Arbat district of Moscow on the eve of Mr Gorbachev's Kremlin Peace Forum in February. "It seems there are people determined to embarrass him at the moment it hurts worst," another diplomat said.

The KGB men involved made no bones about their contempt for the Jews and their dislike of the Western reporters. Mr Gremitskikh claimed that the Jewish demonstrations were illegal. He promised a meeting between Western journalists and Moscow police officers to determine our rights for covering protests in the city.

A few hours before he spoke, 14 Soviet Jews were roughly bundled into waiting militia vehicles as they attempted to demonstrate peacefully in Smolensk Square, which was ringed by scores of KGB men equipped with walkie-talkies.

Ukrainian arrests: Four Soviet political prisoners freed under a Kremlin pardon earlier this year were re-arrested yesterday in the Ukrainian city of Lvov, a dissident, Mr Lev Timofeyev, said (Reuters reports).

Three Ukrainian human rights activists, Mr Vyacheslav Chernovol, Mr Mikhail Goring and Mr Ivan Gell, and an Armenian dissident, Mr Paruir Arikyan, were taken off a train bound for Moscow which they had just boarded and charged with drugs offences, Mr Timofeyev said.

## THE MEDIA CIRCUS

## Battle of wits to manipulate world's headlines

From Christopher Thomas  
Washington

Twice a day the tubby, jocular Mr Martin Fitzwater takes to the stage with the smooth, urbane Mr Gennady Gerasimov to dodge, and very occasionally to answer, the questions of 6,000 journalists covering the summit meeting.

The White House spokesman and the chief spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry make an unlikely duo, but they perform with a cool, dry wit that betrays the ferocity of the battle for the ear of the world's press.

The Russians cleverly proposed joint briefings to ensure that the White House could not steal all the propaganda thunder. "You answer the questions which are put in English, and I will answer all the questions in Russian," Mr Gerasimov suggested tongue-in-cheek as the first session got under way in the grand ballroom of the Marriott Hotel near the White House.

"No, no, I'll answer the easy ones — you answer the hard ones," Mr Fitzwater responded, letting loose with his easy, deep laugh. He is popular with the press corps. So is Mr Gerasimov, as smooth as Stolichnaya vodka in his tailored suits. "Which one of the capitalist" somebody asked.

The Marlin-Gennady show is but one element of the political art form known in Washington as "spin control" — the effort to manipulate press opinion and coverage. The nerve centre of the Soviet propaganda drive is in the Madison Hotel, just



Welcome clasp: Mr Gorbachev being greeted by Mr Reagan in Washington yesterday.

around the corner from the Soviet Embassy on 16th Street, where affable English-speaking officials gladly fix interviews with high-ranking members of the Soviet delegation. The words *brifink* and *bekground* have joined the Russian language.

The good-natured Mr Gerasimov learnt his excellent English during a 1972-1978 tour of duty in New York. He was the correspondent for *Literary Gazette* and the *Novosti* news service, and is a long way from the old style of combative, close-mouthed Soviet spokesmen. "I have

two water-tight compartments in my head," he said. "One for what I can say, one for what I cannot say."

At his first double-act with Mr Fitzwater he found himself fending off awkward questions about Mrs Raisa Gorbachev, who has captivated Americans. "Is she going shopping?" he was asked. He winced visibly.

"It is not on the programme," he ventured lamely, and the press corps laughed at his discomfort. "She is invited to a tea party at the White House and other social engagements." The press de-

manded names, dates, places, addresses and times — to no avail. "*Glasnost*," a correspondent boomed irritably from the back of the room. By his side Mr Fitzwater beamed contentedly.

While Soviet officials are negotiating with journalists at the Madison Hotel about "photo-ops" and "press availability", down at the White House press room there is a constant stream of information about briefings on human rights, Afghanistan, arms control and more besides.

With this deluge the United States Information Agency

hopes for a conclusive victory in the Battle of the Briefings. Mr Charles Wick, director of the agency, said wryly that he did not think he was in competition with his Soviet counterparts. "But we're not being outgunned," he added forcefully.

Russian officials have been getting big play in the press, however, because they are speaking on the record, allowing names to be used. American officials are obliged to insist on anonymity because the White House does not want any individual to start stealing headlines. The summit is strictly President Reagan's show.

On the Soviet side more than 100 reporters, photographers and television cameramen are in town, including senior editors from some of the most influential news outlets. Tass, Novosti and the state radio and television conglomerate have sent their chief executives to Washington. *Pravda* alone assigned six reporters to the coverage.

The Soviet TV team is encoopeded for the occasion at the CBS News bureau in Washington, with a platoon of harassed-looking executives running around with the latest portable telephones, seemingly affixed permanently to their ears. At least three live broadcasts to Moscow are planned.

To their chagrin, Soviet TV reporters are finding themselves constantly harassed by American TV crews, who want to record them doing their work under *glasnost*.

night at the Reagan state dinner. Earlier in the day, Mrs Gorbachev was being taken on a quiet tour of the city, a contrast to the much-televized trips she made on her outings in Reykjavik, Geneva and Paris in the past two years.

The White House made known last week that Mrs Reagan had lost patience with Mrs Gorbachev for her failure to reply to an invitation to come for tea and tour the family home or to give an idea of her plans in Washington.

The infamous "wife gap" of Reykjavik and the "style wars" of Geneva had opened up again. Mrs Gorbachev accompanied her husband to Iceland in October last year and received star treatment, while Mrs Reagan stayed at home after being told that no wives were going. Mrs Gorbachev made things worse by saying that she assumed Mrs Reagan was absent through illness.

On Monday night, as Mrs Gorbachev settled in to the Soviet Embassy four blocks away, Mrs Reagan was lavished with faint praise. "I don't know her very well.... She is very nice," she replied when asked if she got on with Raisa.

Mrs Reagan, the woman who brought elegant entertaining back to the White House after the Carter austerity, also confirmed that she had sent a telegram to Mrs Gorbachev last week with what amounted to an ultimatum for an answer to her invitation for tea today.

"It got to the point where I had to know to fill in the schedule, so I did say I have to know," she said. Mrs Gorbachev asked for a morning coffee instead, because she wanted to spend the afternoon with her husband.

Nor did Mrs Reagan deny an account by her husband's former press spokesman, Mr Larry Speakes, that she had not much taken to Mrs Gorbachev when they first met in Geneva in November 1985.

US retains a healthy scepticism

Continued from page 1  
goodwill towards their visitor, but also a decent scepticism. There is much talk from the opinion-formers of the need for more Americans to get to know the Soviet Union. But, from the point of view of those who are making out that there is no inherent conflict between the two societies, would such fraternization be wise?

In between live coverage of the summit's signings and ceremonies, television fills in time by depicting life in the Soviet Union in as favourable a light as possible. From the evidence of these pictures, it does not look as if the two peoples share the same tastes.

The Soviet men toil in ancient steel mills, while the women drive combine harvesters. Mr Gorbachev is always telling them that they must work harder, pay more rent and get drunk so often. Life here seems much jollier.

So there are probably limits to how far it can all go. None the less, for better or worse, Mr Reagan has started it. While Mr Reagan waited in the White House on Monday night, the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, greeted Mr Gorbachev with: "We are ready," Mr Gorbachev replied: "We are ready too."

Mr Speakes wrote in a book, partly published this week, that Mrs Reagan had found Mrs Gorbachev to be "a dogmatic Marxist who... shared little of Nancy's interest in child care, fighting drug abuse or other issues of substance".

Mrs Reagan also "felt she had been used" by Mrs Gorbachev at Reykjavik, Mr Speakes wrote.

The Russians have been far more free with details of Mr Gorbachev's doings than with those of their First Lady, apparently in an attempt to minimize the kind of publicity that has been putting up backs at home. Officials said she was unlikely to be seen shopping, and declined any of the biographical details that are always being sought. Mrs Gorbachev's age or history as a university teacher are still unknown to the world.

One of the tea parties she will attend has been arranged at Mrs Gorbachev's request by Mrs Pamela Harriman, the

widow of Mr Averell Harriman, the former US Ambassador to Moscow. The guests will include prominent American women, including Senator Nancy Kassebaum, Judge Sandra Day O'Connor of the Supreme Court, and Mrs Katharine Graham, owner of *The Washington Post*.

The American media have started sizing up the Kremlin First Lady a little more critically now that she is on their home soil. "Stylish", "elegant", and so on have largely been dropped as the fashion writers have given fairly low marks to her wardrobe.

The critics have singled out for criticism Mrs Gorbachev's combination of a short silver fur coat combined with a long skirt and boots.

One Washington bar decided to mark Mrs Gorbachev's arrival with a "Boris look-alike" contest. Candidates had to turn up in silver fox coats with just the right shade of henna in their hair.

## US retains a healthy scepticism

Continued from page 1

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Very interesting remarks, there," the Cable News Network commentator observed of that extremely uninteresting exchange — uninteresting, that is, unless the two leaders are ready for opposite things.

## East and West call for further cuts

By Our Foreign Staff

Countries East and West hailed yesterday's signing of the INF accord in Washington but there were strong pleas for the disarmament to be taken much further.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany said the signing was an "historic hour" and added: "This is also our success."

He said the treaty had only been possible because of the clear position of his Government on the deployment of US medium-range nuclear missiles in West Germany.

The treaty was an important step in the right direction, but Herr Kohl hoped it would lead to disarmament in other areas. The connection between nuclear, conventional and chemical weapons systems had to be maintained.

President Mitterrand of France welcomed the accord but said the superpowers must go on to cut short the arms race in space.

"The strings of satellites around and above our heads, passing their time watching what you do in the garden, are there to intervene at any moment to destroy," he said in speech during a visit to Le Creusot, in central France.

"If we do not disarm, then we must arm in this fashion, and it will ruin us. Those who do not want to disarm are bound to over-arm."

During talks in East Berlin yesterday Herr Erich Hon-

der and Mr Branko Mikulic, the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, said the deal would bring greater stability and trust to international relations.

The East German news agency ADN said the two leaders welcomed the Washington summit and said the agreement to rid the world of medium-range nuclear missiles opened the way for disarmament and other confidence-building measures.

"They voiced their conviction that this agreement will have a favourable effect on the international climate and lead to more stability and trust in international relations," ADN said.

Herr Alois Mock, the Foreign Minister of Austria, said the treaty was a political signal for further disarmament.

"Despite all our satisfaction at this agreement, it must be admitted that the warheads of destruction are only a fraction of the nuclear potential of both superpowers," he said.

Mr Joe Clark, the Foreign Minister of Canada, said during a visit to Oslo that the treaty was "a substantial step forward". He dismissed fears that it could bring a fresh threat to NATO's northern flank, but said Canada might consider strengthening its armed forces in its wake.

At the Vatican, the Pope said he prayed that the summit would reduce the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

Jp 11-66 1520



## THE SUMMIT

## THATCHER TRIUMPH

## Former Iron Lady becomes darling of Soviet media

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mrs Thatcher, once dubbed here as the "Iron Lady", has emerged this week as the unlikely new darling of the Soviet media, which has heaped praise on her after Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's floating stopover in Britain on route to the Washington summit.

Pravda, the party newspaper, yesterday carried a big front-page photograph of the two leaders beaming at the camera as part of a lengthy article about their meeting at Brize Norton.

Soviet state television also devoted much pre-summit attention to the stopover in Britain and carried street interviews with a number of British citizens, many of whom commented favourably on the changes under way in the Soviet Union.

Pravda said that Mr Gorbachev's talks with the Prime Minister had been conducted "in the usual frank, friendly and open manner", and noted that relations between the two countries had improved in recent years.

The paper, which reflects the view of the Kremlin, added in remarkably warm language "in this process considerable value and importance is attributable to the

## Prime Minister will visit Poland

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

After laying the basis for stronger relations with the Soviet Union, the Prime Minister yesterday turned her attention to Eastern Europe, accepting an invitation to visit Poland next year.

Her decision followed Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's acceptance of an invitation to make a longer visit to Britain, and the announcement that Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will go to Moscow in January or February.

Both Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey yesterday held talks

with Professor Marian Orzechowski, the Polish Foreign Minister.

The Foreign Office announced that Warsaw had agreed to stop jamming the BBC's short-wave broadcasts to Poland from January 1, 1988 as part of an effort to strengthen relations. The two countries yesterday signed an "investment promotion and protection" agreement.

Even from the calmer perspective of a day's pause for reflection, Monday's mini-summit at RAF Brize Norton

still looked like a triumph to those who participated in it.

British officials were describing the atmosphere during the lunch between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Gorbachev and their respective delegations as "quite extraordinary". It was seen as setting the stage for further improvements in Anglo-Soviet relations.

The next step is to be an exchange of notes in which Britain will formally give Soviet inspectors access to the Greenham Common and Molesworth cruise missile bases.

Through the complex on-site verification process

the American Key Hole and Soviet Cosmos spy satellites will play crucial roles to ensure that neither of the signatories of the INF Treaty violates the historic agreement by covertly manufacturing, storing or deploying medium-range land-based nuclear missiles.

The involvement of spy satellites, which is included in the Inspection Protocol, is described as a method of verification using "enhanced national technical means". Both the Russians and Americans have agreed to a timetable in which the satellites will have unfettered observation of key missile sites. This will require each side to slide open the roof or doors of the missile "garages" to reveal all.

The American Key Hole satellite (KH-11) takes pictures with a sensing system that converts light images into digital information, which it then beams to a ground station. The satellites will act in support of the unprecedented verification procedures on the ground. Any suspicion of cheating will be formally notified to the Special Verification

Commission created by the treaty.

American officials emphasized yesterday that the verification package could not guarantee a 100 per cent cheat-proof system. However, they are satisfied that if the Russians tried to hide or covertly manufacture INF weapons, they would never be able to test them, train troops to operate them or maintain the massive infrastructure needed to support them, without being spotted from above.

Mr Gorbachev's role: Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, gave the first official confirmation in the Commons that a flight of 16 cruise missiles is now operational at Molesworth when he announced that they would be among the first to be removed under the INF treaty (Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent, writes).

Britain and the United States decided to stick to their deployment programme for the cruise missiles at Molesworth despite the imminence of the treaty. The plan had been to install four flights of 64 missiles at the

base. But no others will be brought in before ratification.

Mr Younger said there was no intention on the Nato side to substitute for the weapons removed.

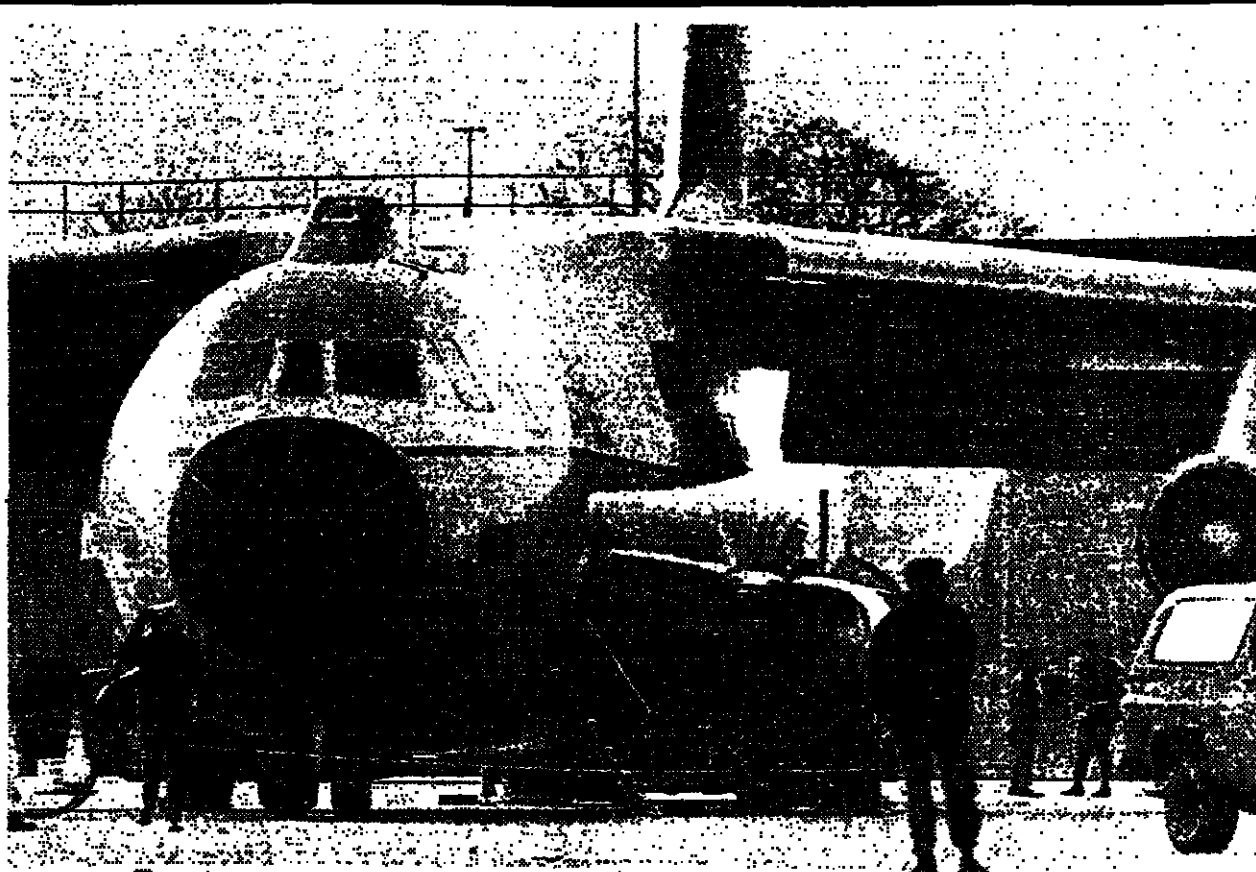
The Prime Minister referred to the removal of the cruise missiles based in Britain later. She said that without them there would never have been an agreement by the Soviet Union to remove an infinitely larger number.

Praised by Conservative MPs for her part in the INF agreement, Mrs Thatcher said it was an historic event and good news for all.

She reiterated her belief that there should be no further reductions in weapons in Europe until they were nearer to parity on conventional weapons and chemical weapons had been eliminated.

Mrs Thatcher said that a chemical weapons treaty would be the most difficult to negotiate because of the difficulties of verification.

Parliament, page 6



A guard at Molesworth on aircraft in which cruise missiles arrived. Soviet officials will soon be allowed to inspect the base.

## Satellites to watch INF sites

Continued from page 1

ance systems will be removed and stored.

Once the destruction period begins, under the "Elimination Protocol" of the treaty, the Russians will have 28 months in which to reduce their stockpile to an equal level with the Americans. The actual elimination period will run for two years and 50 weeks. During the final two weeks of the three-year timetable, it has been agreed that the West Germans will end their missile co-operation agreement with the US to allow the 72 ageing Pershing 1A missiles to be dismantled and the American-owned warheads returned.

Inspection teams, which will be allowed 20 visits a year in the first year, 15 a year in the next five years and 10 a year in the last five years, will carry with them measuring devices, radiation detectors and special dual-lens cameras that produce two identical prints, one for each side.

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Parliament, page 6

## Friendly words at the White House

Continued from page 1

would find a well-spring of good will.

"American people believe that a stranger is a friend they have yet to meet." He had often felt that the Soviet people should have been better friends long ago. "But let us have the courage to recognize there are weighty differences between our governments and systems — differences that will not go away by wishful thinking or expressions of good will, no matter how sincerely delivered."

Both sides should have no illusions, talk with candour and meet differences head-on. "Such, I hope, will be the spirit of our upcoming meetings," Mr Gorbachev nodded assent several times as the translation came across the loudspeaker.

Mr Gorbachev said history had changed their two countries and themselves with the "solemn duty to justify the hopes of the American and Soviet people and of people the world over to undo the logic of the arms race by working together in good faith."

Much would depend on the choice between fear and prejudice inherited from the Cold War, leading to confrontation, and common sense which called for action to ensure the survival of civilization.

He reminded Mr Reagan of the Soviet-American alliance in the Second World War, and said that now, in crucial phases of history, the two nations were capable of shouldering their high responsibility.

Mr Gorbachev's speech, beamed back to the Soviet Union, was clearly also aimed at his domestic audience. He dwelt on the irreversibility of democratization and glasnost which were "decisive prerequisites" for reforms. He emphasized the Soviet stake in peace, and declared: "We are prepared to go all the way along our part of the road with the sincerity and responsibility that befit a great and peaceful power."

Parliament, page 6

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December 8 1987

## PARLIAMENT

# British deterrent will be kept and modernized

Britain's nuclear deterrent will remain and will be kept up to date, the Prime Minister made clear during question time.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, had asked why Mrs Thatcher wanted to inaugurate a new generation of intermediate missiles — sea-launched and air-launched — because the Soviet Union, she knew, would respond in kind.

## ● We have already made a good contribution to disarmament ●

Mrs Thatcher replied that all weaponry had to be modernized to be effective against the defence it would meet.

Mr Michael Heseltine (Henley, C), the former Secretary of State for Defence, said that if the Prime Minister had been told that an INF agreement had been signed in Washington, would she convey her congratulations to the United States and Soviet Union leaders?

Would she accept, on behalf of all Conservative MPs, congratulations for what she and the Government had done (Labour protests) in achieving this unique agreement?

Would she continue to remind the British public that if the Government had listened to the policies of the Opposition there would have been no agreement because that would have denied Britain the nuclear

## PRIME MINISTER

strength from which to negotiate? (Conservative cheers)

Mrs Thatcher said that she was grateful to Mr Heseltine. She assumed that the INF treaty would be signed today and she would gladly convey the congratulations of Conservative MPs — and she hoped from all sides of the House — to the President and the Secretary General. This was a historic event and good news for all.

She would also do her best to remind people that, but for the firmness of Britain and Nato, that agreement would never have been signed and the SS20s would still have been up and they would have had no means of persuading the Soviet Union to take them down (Labour protests and Conservative cheers).

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) then appealed for questions and answers to be heard in silence by the House.

Mr Kinnock said that he welcomed the meeting which the Prime Minister had yesterday with General Secretary Gorbachev. He said that he agreed with her view that, as she had put it, the Washington summit was the occasion to plan the way forward to more arms reduction.

Could she tell the House what contribution her Government was making to that way forward?

Mrs Thatcher said that Britain had already made a considerable direct contribution with regard to cruise missiles, having been the first to station them and therefore had a great deal to do with bringing about that treaty ... (Labour protests).

Britain had already made clear several times that it was for a 50 per cent reduction in the number of Soviet and United States missiles.

Third, Britain had been active over chemical weapons, in particular in trying to find a method of verification.

Fourth, Britain had made clear that there should be no further reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe until they were far nearer parity on conventional weapons and chemical weapons had been eliminated.

Fifth, Britain had made clear its view of the ABM treaty and its relevance to SDI and a number of other things.

Mr Kinnock said that, in addition to various other steps, many of which could be claimed with some justification, would the Prime Minister in order to promote that way forward, drop any proposals to replace the intermediate land-based missiles, that would be removed as a consequence of the INF agreement, with sea or air-borne intermediate missiles by innovation or by the so-called process of modernization, since

## ● Why does she want a new generation of missiles? ●

that act of replacement would clearly nullify the INF agreement that she rightly celebrated?

Mrs Thatcher said that the INF treaty was for land-based missiles. They had a positive duty to see that other defences were modernized effectively.

Mr Kinnock wanted to know why it should involve the enhancement of intermediate

nuclear missiles by sea or air.

Mrs Thatcher said that all weaponry had to be modernized so that it was effective against the threats that it might meet. That was a very simple proposition but Mr Kinnock could not understand it.

Mr Canley Ouslow (Woking, C) said that it was good to see Mr Kinnock congratulating the Prime Minister. The next Nato priority must be the destruction of the Soviet chemical armory.

Mrs Thatcher: I have made clear on many occasions that the next step forward must be towards conventional parity because the Soviet Union has far superior conventional forces and we must try to negotiate them down.

It is a most difficult treaty to negotiate because it is very difficult to verify that no chemical weapons are being produced because they can be produced in different factories under the binary system.

Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton, Lab) The agreement being signed today does not include a single British or Nato nuclear weapon. Did she take the opportunity to put them on the negotiating table or did she confine herself to being President Reagan's tea lady? (Labour laughter and Conservative protests)

Mrs Thatcher: No. That agreement includes several flights of weapons stationed at Greenham Common. Without them, there would never have been agreement by the Soviet Union to take down an infinitely larger number of interim weapons than Nato has.

We believe that the British independent deterrent is vital to our security. We believe that it is vital to keep the British independent nuclear deterrent, and so, I believe, do the British people.



Mrs Thatcher: The next step must be towards parity in conventional weapons.

## Three-year cruise removal

Once the INF treaty was ratified and came into force, missile withdrawals would start and would be phased over three years, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, said during Commons questions.

During that time, six operational flights of ground-launched cruise missiles would be withdrawn from Greenham Common and one from RAF Molesworth. He expected the Molesworth missiles would be among the first on the Nato side to be withdrawn. Meanwhile, the normal training pattern would continue in this country.

Mr Younger was replying to Mr Michael Mates (East Hampshire, C), who had asked about the implications of the agree-

ment for deployment of cruise missiles in this country.

Mr Dennis Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament, said that if a future US president were not to supply Trident missiles to Britain, the Government would have no redress.

Mr Younger disagreed. "We have the clearest possible assurances from the US Administration that they regard themselves as committed to provide what they have undertaken to provide for our Trident programme."

Answering a later question about Britain's disarmament role after the INF agreement, Mr Younger said that the United Kingdom participated

directly in a number of arms control forums.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said that, since the Prime Minister had spent the previous day cashing in on the INF agreement, would Mr Younger say that the Government was prepared to negotiate the removal of all nuclear weapons, rather than spending its time and energy in attacking the CND in this country, which had done more to bring about the INF agreement than the Government?

Mr Younger said that it was courageous to suggest that the CND could take any credit. If their advice had been followed there would have been no agreement.

## Welsh rate support praised

The Welsh rate-support grant settlement for 1988-89 was described as fair, realistic and sensible by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, when he announced the figures in the Commons.

But Mr Alan Williams, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales, said that it would lead to cuts in council-provided services and increases in rate demands.

Mr Walker said that provision for relevant expenditure would be set at £1,894 million. That was £112.9 million, or 6.3 per cent, over 1987-88 budgets. A 1.8 per cent rise in the expected rate of inflation and £8 million higher than the amount announced in July.

The current expenditure provision was set at £1,640 million. That was an increase of £81.9 million, or 5.3 per cent, over 1987-88 budgets and 0.8 per cent above the expected rate of inflation.

Aggregate Exchequer grant was £1,256 million. That was an increase of £28.9 million, or 2.3 per cent, over last year. Specific and supplementary grants totalled £241.2 million, an increase of 5.8 per cent on 1987-88.

Domestic rate relief grant remained unchanged at 18.5p in the pound, and in aggregate totalled £27 million. Block grant was £987.8 million, an increase of £66.9 million, or 7.3 per cent, over last year.

Mr Williams said that £1,700 million would be required just to maintain services at their present level. Mr Walker had announced £1,640 million so there was a shortfall of £60 million.

## Thatcher against 'unfair' tax

A banded community charge would just be local income tax by another name and would bear particularly heavily on people such as teachers and nurses, Mrs Thatcher said during question time.

"Income tax is paid and registered where people live, not where they live, and it would mean great burdens on local authorities."

There had been laughter when Mr Roger Kinn (Birmingham, Northfield, C) said that there was wide support in the population for rates reform and that poll tax (renewed laughter) was a sensible way to reform rates, but, in looking at that, had she considered that banded community charge was nothing more than a form of local income tax?

Mrs Thatcher agreed that it would be income tax by another name. It would involve complicated marginal relief.

● Everybody, including doctors, nurses and surgeons, was complaining about the National Health Service and asking the Government to do something positive about it, Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab) said during question time.

"Why not do something positive now?" he asked the Prime Minister.

Mrs Thatcher said that they believed negotiation on nurse pay would be completed that afternoon between management and nurses. It would then be referred to the review body.

There were Opposition protests and laughter when she went on to say that the NHS was going from strength to strength. The number of in-patients treated. The number of in-patients had increased from 5,500,000 in 1978 to 6,500,000 now, with increases from 34 million to 38 million in the number of out-patients.

## New rules for beer glasses

Revised regulations for beer glasses will shortly be issued by the Department of Trade and Industry and at the same time the Brewers' Society will be publishing guidelines on good dispensing practice, Lord Beaverbrook said during Lords questions.

Lord Winstanley (L) said that, in a survey to discover the extent to which beer drinkers were being defrauded by short measures, trading standards officers had found that it amounted to losses of about £500,000 a year.

Lord Beaverbrook replied that there had been a number of surveys by trading standard officers, who assumed the froth was not part of the drink. But in many parts of the country the custom was that the froth was part of it.

## Aid for adder

Britain's only indigenous venomous snake, the adder (*Vipera berus*) is among species being considered for protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

Mr Colin Maynard, Under Secretary of State, Environment, said in a written reply that the department was considering the conservation case for some species recommended by the Nature Conservancy Council. Apart from the adder, these were allis shad (*Allosa allosa*), the basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*), freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and 22 species of British butterflies (*Rhopalocera*).

## New peer

Lord Ross of Newport, formerly Mr Stephen Ross, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight in the House of Commons, was in the House of Lords watched by Mr David Steel and Mrs Shirley Williams.

## Savage in call for easier abortions

By Sheila Ginn, Political Staff

Dr Wendy Savage, senior lecturer at London Hospital Medical College, yesterday blamed the demand for late abortions on the reluctance of many national health service doctors to terminate pregnancies.

Disputes over the interpretation of the present abortion laws and moral objections from NHS medical staff often delayed terminations, driving many desperate women to seek abortions in private clinics.

She called for a change in the law in line with the United States and Sweden to allow abortion on demand up to 12 weeks of gestation and a campaign of family planning and sex education directed at teenagers.

Such action would deal more successfully with carrying late abortions than forcing down the time limit from 28 weeks to 24 or even 18 weeks' gestation, she argued.

She was giving evidence to the House of Lords select committee investigating the abortion laws, which is turning into an rehearsal for Mr David Alton's Bill to outlaw abortions after 18 weeks.

The peers hope to report on the working of the present laws before Mr Alton's Bill goes into its committee stage.

However it has already emerged from its hearings that a firm deadline of less than 28 weeks would stop all abortions

on young teenage girls who hide their pregnancies, on middle-aged women who do not realize for some time that they are pregnant and on those whose babies are found to be severely handicapped.

A senior peer said that, although he had previously been in favour of a cut in the time limit because of the greater chance of a very premature baby surviving, he now believed that an arbitrary deadline would lead to a huge rise in demand for private abortions.

Dr Savage told the committee: "I have to do the best for my patient and the patient usually knows best."

"Where doctors differ is how disturbed a woman has to be before they accept her case for having an abortion. I take the view that you do not have to have a woman saying that she will kill herself to accept that she cannot carry on with a pregnancy."

Dr Philip Norris, chairman of Doctors Who Respect Human Life, told the peers that he was an anti-abortionist, but testified that he believed that the baby was capable of surviving outside the womb.

Spina friends people walking around now, he added, are grateful that their condition is being put forward as a reason for carrying out a late abortion.

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## PARLIAMENT EEC meeting 'important for effective cash control'

### FARM PRICES

The Prime Minister repeated the Government's determination that EEC spending should be brought under control when she reported to the Commons on the European Council meeting in Copenhagen at the weekend.

She said that the meeting had been an important move in Britain's direction towards effective and binding control of expenditure.

All members now agreed on the introduction of controls on the introduction of subsidies in farm price support if agreed production levels were exceeded.

"I am glad to say," she said to cheers, "that the Commission's proposal for an oil and fats tax, which we have resisted strongly at the June European Council, was not further pursued."

She added: "I made absolutely clear that we are not prepared to see any dilution of our Fontainebleau statement."

The 12 leaders had welcomed the agreement between the American Administration and Congress to reduce the US budget deficit and committed their commitment to run their economies soundly.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said that he welcomed the Prime Minister's recognition that what she hailed as an effective, disciplined and lasting agreement at Fontainebleau in 1984 had been in practice neither effective nor disciplined and certainly not lasting.

What did she intend to do before and at the Brussels special meeting in the new year to ensure that the move towards legally binding, effective controls on farm spending was complete and to see that Brussels in 1988 was not Fontainebleau revisited?

Mrs Thatcher said that controls were not binding because the guidelines were not respected. That was why they had made clear this time that controls must be "embodied" in regulations so that they were legally binding.

Mr Robert Maclean, leader of the SDP, said that it was a sad commentary of Britain's parsimony in the face of world economic matters that the best this summit could do was stand on the sidelines.

It congratulated the US Administration and Congress on reaching agreement because its members could not coordinate their own domestic response to this dangerous situation.

## Tory MPs demand tougher union laws

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Right-wing Conservative MPs are attempting to extend still further the curbs on trade union power encompassed in the Government's employment Bill.

They have tabled clauses to outlaw closed shops and oblige members to opt in rather than out of their union's political funds.

At present the Bill simply abolishes a union's immunity from prosecution for seeking to maintain a closed shop, but will not get rid of the closed shop. Previous legislation obliges unions to hold ballots on whether members should contribute to their political fund, and to date all have decided that they should.

Both new clauses have been tabled by Mr Graham Riddick, MP for Colne Valley, with support from other Tories on the standing committee examining the Bill.

Mr Riddick believes that his new clauses will be incorporated into the next round of employment legislation even if they fail this time.

Detailed scrutiny of the Government's education Bill began yesterday with a fierce Opposition attack on the fact that the national curriculum will apparently apply to state schools but not to independent schools.

At least three Tory members of the standing committee on the Bill are believed to be sympathetic to this argument.

They could embarrass the Government by voting for an Opposition amendment if Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, does not dispel their fears when the committee next meets tomorrow.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, expressed outrage that the national curriculum should apply to his own children but not to those of Cabinet members who were privately educated.

"If the national curriculum is to mean anything as a guarantee of standards it is critically

Mrs Thatcher said that there were 12 members in the community. In his party, they would think that quite a lot (Conservative laughter).

"We have to get agreement among all of them. Each is naturally concerned to do the best for his own country. It is not easy."

"We did a great deal of work which will count in reaching the final decision."

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) said that the House last agreed an increase in own resources on the clear understanding that there would be effective budgetary discipline.

Mrs Thatcher said that the decision of the agriculture ministers amounted to more than the money available.

"It is in that situation which we simply must stop. That is why the Commission is now drafting binding regulations. It is up to us, separate member states, to see that those regulations are effective, however detailed."

"That is why we would give no figure for increases in resources until we make certain that the regulations would be binding."

Mr David Curry (Skipton and Ripon, C) asked the Prime Minister to resist intense pressure to reach a compromise at the European Council in February because she would be supported by the House in seeking a delayed long-term deal rather than yet another unsatisfactory, short-term compromise.

Mrs Thatcher: We will be under intense pressure, but we also apply intense pressure and several of us are determined to tackle agricultural surpluses.

Mr Bruce Gosselt (The Wrekin, Lab) said that the only way to get a sensible food policy was for decisions to be made in Britain and not in Brussels.

Mrs Thatcher disagreed and said that farmers had benefited considerably from the CAP.

In a further reply, she said that the French Prime Minister had assured her that no ransom money had been paid for the hostages held in Beirut and that there was no question of supplying arms to Iran.

Mr Roy Beggs (East Antrim, DUP) asked whether in her talks with Mr Haughey she had raised the question of the extradition of Mr Charles Crawford believed to be the mastermind behind the Enniskillen Remembrance Day massacre and other murders in Northern Ireland?

Mrs Thatcher said that she had let the Taoiseach know her views on extradition and the depth of feelings of herself and the House. She had been assured that if the changes did not result in effective extradition procedures they would be reviewed, because Mr Haughey was anxious that those accused of crimes should be brought before the courts.

## Private schools 'should use national courses'

important there should be commonality of standards between the independent and public sectors," he said.

It was not enough for the Government to hope that private schools adopted the curriculum: it had to legislate.

Mr Paddy Ashdown, Liberal education spokesman, said that the clause imposing the national curriculum only on maintained schools epitomized the damaging and divisive nature of the whole Bill. If the curriculum was good enough for the state sector, why was it not also good enough for the independent sector?

**Parliament today**  
Commons (2.30): Questions: Scottish Office, Motion on Rate Support Grant Report (England), 1988-89. Debate on EEC fisheries arrangements.

Lords (2.30): Debate on disarmament. Sunday Sports Bill, report.

## Close encounter at Smithfield



Kelly Harcourt, aged 15 months, taking stock of the best of British farming yesterday when her parents, Mr Chris Harcourt and his wife Carmen, from Dyfed, west Wales, took her to the Royal Smithfield show. (Photograph: Dennis McNeelance)

## Soviet growers 'may threaten West'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A warning that the Soviet Union might soon offer a greater economic threat to the West was given yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales.

Mr Walker, who has held the agricultural and industrial portfolios, said that one of the most interesting things about the Gorbachov years would be how successful he was in

increasing Soviet farm output.

It was all very well for the Russian and American leaders to be engaged in what, it was hoped, would be friendly talks, but nothing had been friendlier to the United States in the past than the consistent failures of the Soviet harvest.

In Moscow there was the biggest school in the world training people in Western

methods, and it was notable how the number of delegations to and from places such as Argentina was increasing.

He had no doubt that the Russians hoped to move into western markets in the coming years.

Mr Walker, addressing a seminar at the Royal Smithfield Show in London, said that the problems of excess

production should not obscure the fact that every government had a duty to maintain the basic stability of its agriculture.

To expect European countries to abandon their farmers and simply import food from the cheapest source would be unrealistic. No government could allow its agriculture to be destroyed.

## Fallow fields may provide rich harvest

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Wheat and barley farmers may soon be paid up to £80 a year for each acre of land they leave fallow.

Mr John MacGregor, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday that he hoped a new scheme to reduce surplus food production could be implemented from April 1 next year.

Introducing a consultative document on agriculture, he said a provision of £16.5 million had been made in the public expenditure estimates in 1989-90 for farmers who took land out of production, and £22 million had been set aside for 1990-91.

He said his proposals were designed to achieve a proper balance between food production and nature conservation. Suggestions for improvements would be welcomed.

The proposals apply only to producers of cereals and beef, the surplus commodities of most immediate concern in Britain. Payments are recommended to farmers who reduce land under cultivation by at least 20 per cent for a minimum of five years or who make a similar reduction in herd numbers.

Land taken out of production must be left fallow, afforested or used for other non-agricultural purposes.

For cereals, one approach would be to set a single flat rate of compensation, perhaps between £150 and £200 a hectare (£60-£80 an acre), which would provide an adequate incentive to take land out of production.

Alternatively, farmers could be invited to tender for compensation payments.

Land not left fallow could be planted with trees or used to establish new activities and enterprises, such as camping.

Beef farmers would qualify for compensation by effecting cuts of at least 20 per cent in their herds. Land freed from grazing must not be used for other agricultural purposes. The consultative document

Woodlands should be planted on the outskirts of cities and a "New Forest" created in the Midlands, the Countryside Commission says in a policy document published today.

A national forestry policy based solely on timber production can no longer be justified, it says. In future, forestry should incorporate conservation, rural employment and wildlife objectives.

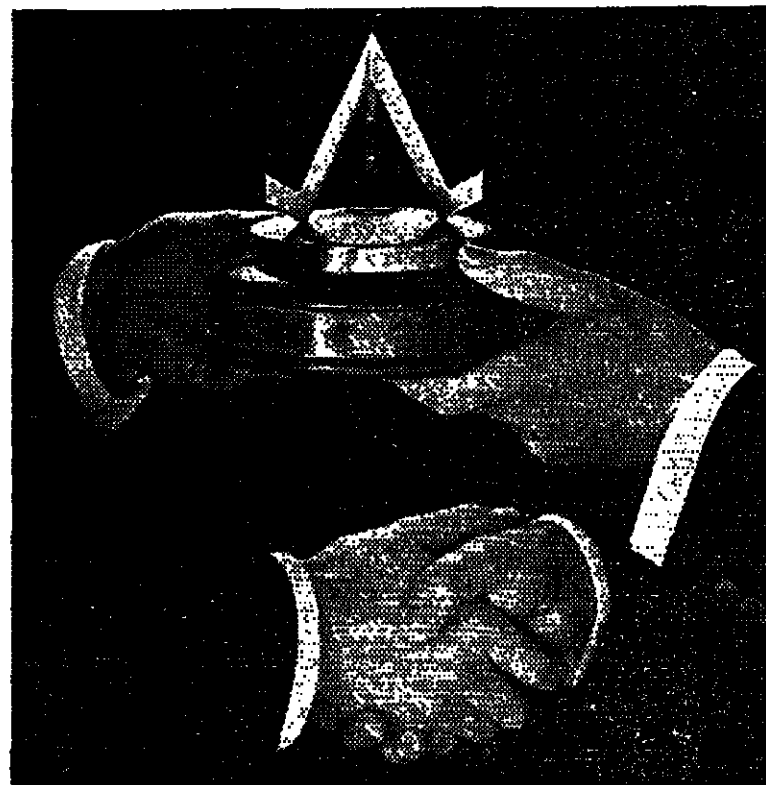
County councils, national parks and metropolitan districts should all prepare strategies for afforestation. The commission cites Epping Forest and Cannock Chase as "urban fringe forests" of great recreational value.

The report adds that a large forest in the Midlands covering about 150 square miles would benefit tourism and take a significant amount of farmland out of production.

concedes that this scheme would be complex to administer, and invites alternative suggestions.

**An Extensification Scheme** (Agricultural Departments of England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, Room 420, East Block, Ministry of Agriculture, Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HH; free). The closing date for comments is February 2, 1988.

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# FBI looks at hijack theory in California plane crash

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

The FBI is investigating the possibility that armed hijackers may have been responsible for Monday afternoon's crash of a British-Aerospace-made passenger jet, owned by Pacific South West Airlines, in which all 43 passengers and crew died.

Two minutes before the commuter jet from Los Angeles to San Francisco crashed in mountainous cattle-ranch terrain near the Pacific Ocean at Paso Robles, about 200 miles north of Los Angeles, two frantic radio reports from the pilot said there was gunfire on board.

The message, monitored by local traffic controllers, indicated that the four-engined BAe jet was burning on its port side and there was smoke in the cockpit. A Sacramento lawyer, Mr Stephen Kronick, flying to Paso Robles, said he and the pilot of his small plane heard the crash pilot mention gunfire. Then there was silence.

Mr Richard Bretzing, the agent in charge of the FBI

office in Los Angeles, said yesterday: "The indication of gunshots makes the possibility more intense that there has been a crime aboard the aircraft."

Monday's crash was the first accident involving the BAe 146-200 since the 100-seat jet went into wide use in the US three years ago. There are now 78 BAe 146-200s and its smaller version in service in the US.

● LONDON: Crash investigators believe that the pilot may have been shot by a berserk gunman. (Our Air Correspondent writes).

The 146, the world's quietest airliner, has many safety facilities. If shots were fired in the passenger cabin, it is unlikely that the fuselage would have suffered sufficient damage to cause the aircraft to crash. The jet was flying at about 22,000ft and with the cabin pressure at about 4,000ft, the fuselage could have sustained large holes with almost no effect on the aircraft's handling.

# Paris expels Khomeini foes to Gabon

From Philip Jacobson, Paris



Iranian exiles demonstrating outside the French Embassy in London yesterday at the Mujahedin expulsions by France.

Barely 24 hours after their detention in a round-up by French police, 17 members of the People's Mujahedin organization, which opposes the Khomeini regime in Iran, were expelled yesterday to the West African state of Gabon.

Apart from three Turkish militants, all were Iranians who claimed to have been properly registered with the French authorities as political refugees. Another eight Iranian Mujahedin and one more Turkish sympathizer were placed under house arrest within France.

According to their lawyers in Paris, legitimate efforts to prevent or delay deportation of the 17 men had been ignored by the authorities. "Now you see the price paid to Ayatollah Khomeini," said the lawyers' spokesman. "The ministries of the interior and police preferred to use an aircraft rather than the corridors of justice. As cynicism goes, it was a master stroke."

There was further sharp criticism yesterday of the French Government for what is seen by a good many observers here as part of an understanding reached between France and Iran to secure the freedom of French hostages in Lebanon and improve relations.

"A tip or a payment on account?" asked *Le Monde*, noting that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had written to the French Foreign Ministry to ask the Government's reasons for deporting the Iranians.

To judge by the utterings of M Charles Pasqua, the combative Interior Minister, who played a central role in the negotiations with Iran, any response will be short and sharp. "People settling in our country with the intention of organizing terrorism will be expelled," he declared not long after the police round-up. "We don't take lessons about this from anyone."

The Secretary of the opposition Socialist Party, M Lionel Jospin, has demanded to know if the Government was committed to "obeying orders from Iran". If the deported Mujahedin really had posed a threat to public order, he said, why had nothing been done about them until now?

At a press conference near Paris, the French wife of one of the Iranian dissidents, taken away by police at dawn on Monday, denounced the expulsions as "a stain on the honour of France".

For its part, the Interior Ministry was no more forthcoming than it had been after Monday's police operation. According to a spokesman, the expulsions had been carried out immediately "for pressing reasons of national security".

The ministry would not speculate why the 17 had been sent to Gabon when their leader, Mr Massoud Rajavi, had chosen Iraq to carry on the struggle after being "expelled" to leave France last year, not long before a warning of relations between Paris and Tehran.

# Afghan fighting cuts off town

Delhi — Reports of extreme food shortages in the besieged south-eastern Afghan town of Khost have reached diplomats in Kabul (Michael Hamlyn writes). All four roads leading to the little town, which is close to the Pakistan border, have been cut by Mujahidin guerrillas, and supplies to the beleaguered government garrison are not being allowed through.

The Soviet command has sent elite troops and helicopter-borne commandos to lift the siege, so far without success. Western diplomats here say that a big column of relief supplies left Gardez late last week along the Zadrin road, but was stopped just outside the town. Fighting around Khost is reported to be unusually bloody this year, with a responsible medical source telling diplomats in Kabul that hospitals there have had the busiest week since the beginning of hostilities. As many as 120 wounded a week are being brought to just one of the capital's hospitals, including civilians said to be suffering badly from high-altitude Soviet bombing.

# Gaza plan Stinger scorned

Jerusalem — A controversial plan to end the military control of the occupied Gaza Strip and dismantle the 15 Jewish settlements there has been put forward by Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, while a manhunt continues for the murderer of an Israeli in the area (Ian Murray writes).

His suggestion brought an immediate storm of condemnation from the offices of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister. One of his closest advisers said: "Peres's suggestion is a total failure. It is inconceivable to raise such an idea a day after the murder of an Israeli citizen in Gaza."

Nicosia (AP) — Iran, claiming for the first time to have used the weapon against Iraq, said yesterday that its Revolutionary Guards shot down a Soviet-made Iraqi warplane with a US-designed Stinger missile. A Revolutionary Guards statement said that the MiG21 was hit over the Fao peninsula, and that the pilot, who bailed out before the plane crashed into the northern Gulf, had not been found.

Iraq, which denied the loss of any aircraft this week, claimed a fresh shipping strike in the Gulf. Lloyds said it appeared that an Iranian tanker, the 317,824-tonne Alamoot, had been hit on Iran's oil shuttle run.

# Seoul student protest

Seoul (AP) — Hundreds of South Korean students chanting "down with the military dictatorship" occupied the headquarters of the two main opposition parties yesterday to demand that they field a single presidential candidate in next week's election. They called on the Reunification Democratic Party leader, Mr Kim Young Sam, and the head of the Party for Peace and Democracy, Mr Kim Dae Jung, to agree on just one of them running to ensure that the Government is defeated. The students said the two had until tomorrow to reach agreement or face unspecified action.

# It's 'Santa' Muldoon

Wellington — Sir Robert Muldoon, the bellicose former New Zealand Prime Minister, has swapped his well-known scowl for a benign smile. These days he is beaming out of newspaper advertisements, right, as a jovial Father Christmas (Richard Long writes).

Sir Robert's move to cash in on Christmas consumerism involves the promotion of a woollen underblanket, but it left him out in the cold in Parliament yesterday. Government MPs accused him of lacking patriotism and undermining New Zealand industry because he is promoting an Australian product.



# Death toll rises in Natal faction feud

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

As representatives of two rival black political factions prepared today to hold their second round of peace talks in two weeks in Pietermaritzburg, the 'capital' of Natal province, police reported that seven more people had been killed in internecine warfare in the region.

So far local leaders of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the radical nationwide alliance of anti-apartheid bodies, and Inkatha, a more conservative Zulu-based political organization, have been unable or unwilling to stop the murderous feuding.

It is estimated that the brutal rivalry between the two groups for control of the black township round Pietermaritzburg has taken at least 200 lives this year, about 70 of them in the last two months.

According to the police, six black men aged between 40 and 67 were killed on Monday night in the Taylor's Halt area near Pietermaritzburg by a group of younger men who set fire to their homes.

The killings appear, from the evidence of local sources, to have been the work of young UDF militants who sought out Inkatha supporters, presumably in vengeance for murders of UDF supporters by Inkatha activists.

A seventh body, that of a 22-year-old black man who had been stabbed and beaten to death, was also found in the Taylor's Halt area. Judging by his youth, he seems likely to have been a UDF member.

UDF spokesmen claim that a serious obstacle to progress in the peace talks is the alleged refusal of the police to take action against Inkatha "warlords", despite abundant testimony of their involvement in murder and violence.

The leader of Inkatha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, maintains that his followers resort to violence only in self-defence. At a meeting last week, end Inkatha members resolved to continue to defend themselves "in the honoured idiom of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth".

A Christmas message from the Post Office to customers

# "IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL—SO LET'S GET POSTING FOR CHRISTMAS"

The Post Office is pleased that the threat to the Christmas mail has been lifted following a proposed agreement with the Union of Communication Workers which benefits both customers and staff—at no cost to you.

We want to thank you, our customers, for bearing with us during the period of uncertainty which has just passed. We're sorry this included a small period of postal disruption but it was vital for the Post Office to find ways to improve productivity and provide better services. The proposed agreement achieves that goal and that is why we can agree to a shorter working week with the union — without you, the customer, picking up the tab.

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Now it's business as usual for the Royal Mail, doing what it does best — delivering tens of millions of letters and parcels in time for Christmas.

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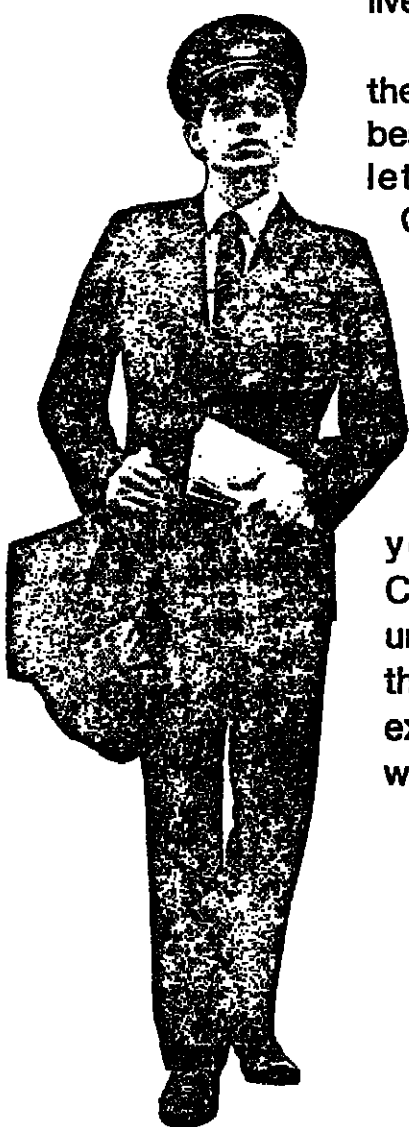
- \* We're injecting extra vehicles into the Post Office's regular fleet of some 28,000, and using more trains and planes.
- \* Renting dozens of halls and buildings as temporary sorting offices.
- \* Employing extra temporary staff to swell the 165,000 strong regular postal workforce by some 30,000.

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- To wrap up your parcels well.
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# Geldof follows in weary footsteps of hungry farmers

From Paul Vallely, Addis Ababa

It is only by travelling on foot over some of the most demanding terrain in Africa that several million peasant farmers in Ethiopia can make any contact with the outside world, as Bob Geldof discovered this week during a seven-hour trek across the highlands of Gondar province.

Mr Geldof set off to examine the inaccessibility of the huge Abyssinian plateau, which is heavily dissected by plunging gorges and steep valleys. Here the people can receive food supplies only by mule or on the back of a farmer. The walk became a chronicle of the environmental and human degradation in the region.

It began in Maja Robit, a small market town where in normal times herdsmen trade their goats and sheep for grain, salt, pepper and coffee. But these were not normal times.

At the front of the market the herdsmen stood in pathetic isolation. One of the first indices of famine is that grain prices rise dramatically while livestock prices fall as farmers sell stock animals to buy food. In Maja Robit it was not just a question of low prices. There were no buyers at all.

Shimalis Dessie, a farmer aged 43, stood with four scrawny sheep. He wanted 12 birr (about £3.60) for the thinnest and 56 birr for the best. Still there were no buy-

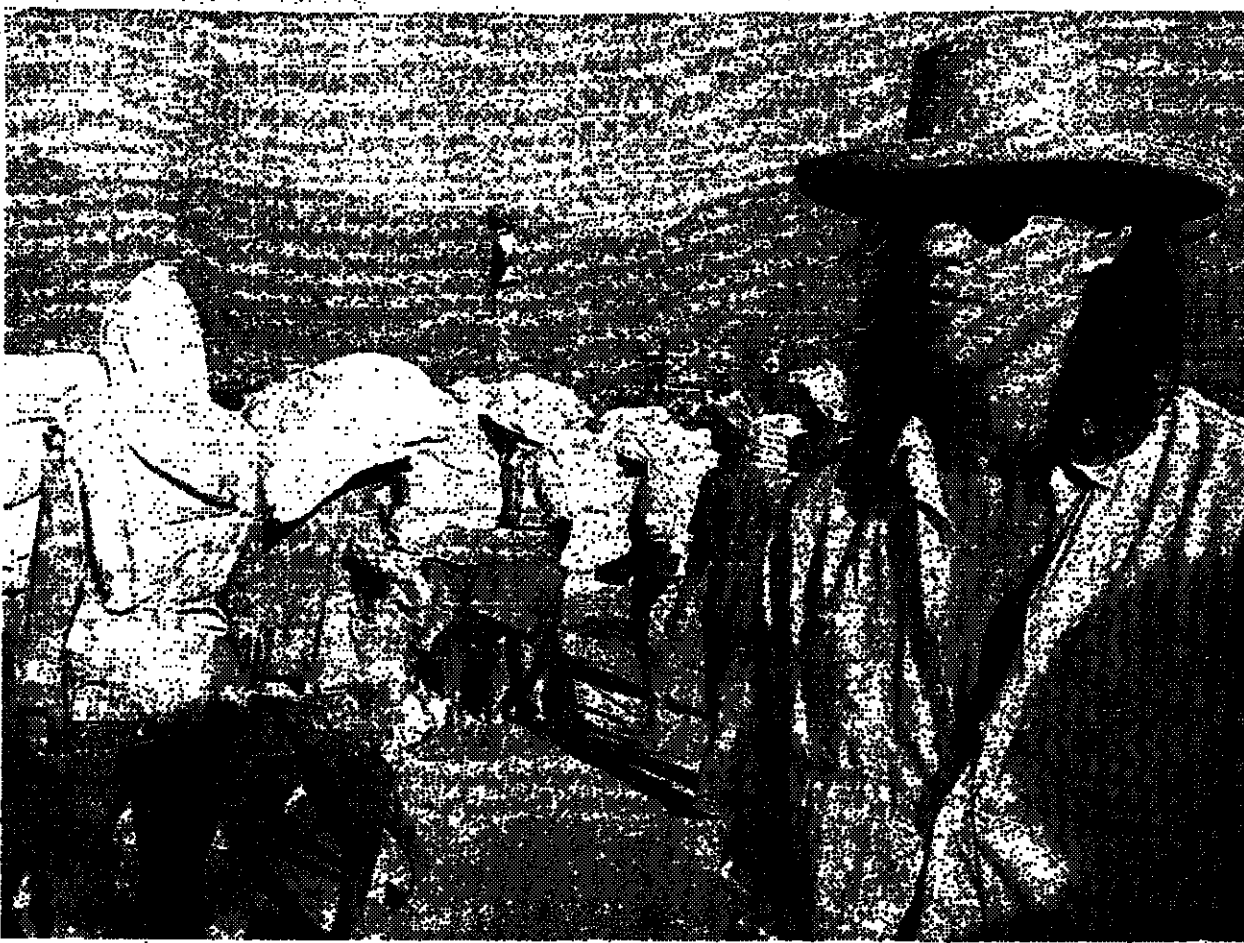
ers. "What can I do?" he asks Bob Geldof. "All the crops failed — sorghum, teff, chickpeas." In a good year he would have harvested more than a ton. But good years are becoming rare. So he walked for 10 hours to the market. He had already sold eight other sheep. Next he would sell his cow and his ploughing ox.

Not far off a woman with a cloth spread on the ground before her was selling teff — the staple cereal in Ethiopia. She was getting a good price: three cups for one birr, which was quadruple the normal price. But, she said, she was not selling a surplus. Like everyone else, she had a failed harvest. What was on sale was all she had.

Then why sell it, asked the Band Aid chairman?

To pay taxes: 20 birr land tax, five birr to the peasants' association, three birr to the women's association and three birr to the youth association, the woman said. Then she would have nothing left to live on. She had eight children but her husband was dead.

The Geldof party spent the night in the highland village of Yiterala, on the edge of a precipice. Here, too, the crop had failed, though the family in whose hut Mr Geldof slept had somehow found meat for their guests. They refused to eat with him. It was a fast day, they told him. In Ethiopia more than 200 such fasts every



Bob Geldof, chairman of the Band Aid trustees, viewing food distribution near Mekele on his fact-finding tour of Ethiopia.

year are strictly observed by the rural people. In 1985 even the dying observed them in the refugee camps.

Next day he rose before

dawn. A group of farmers, acting as bearers, led the way down perilous paths along ridges and steep valleys of immense grandeur. Three

hours later, at the bottom, they traversed a totally dry river bed.

A party of walkers approached. They had been trav-

elling for three days and were two days away from the Government's resettlement camp at Metema. One of the men had a daughter there who

had just given birth. They were going to see the baby, they said, but it was clear that their main purpose was to look over the camp.

The 4½-hour climb to the top of the next ridge was exhausting. By now the sun was hot and the thin air made the smallest effort wearying. Bob Geldof surrendered gladly to a mule for the final stages of the climb to the village of Benat, wedged 6,700 ft high at the top of a ridge.

In the centre of the tiny village, where the terraces of arable land were no more than 15 ft wide, Asmamaw Derese, an old man in his forties, stood by his hut door. He did not invite the guests in. He had no hospitality to offer.

All his crops had failed. He had sold all his sheep. His wife had gone off with the last of the money to buy grain. If she got back that night they would eat. Next he would sell his five cattle and his ox. Then, the man said, he would die.

Others on this bare mountain were not so resigned. One man had a brother who had gone to Metema. He had written and said it was not too bad. Some of the younger people were considering going too. The old ones would die where they were born.

A helicopter arrived for the pop star. The 'bearers' were paid and set off home.

The next day at the resettlement camp in Metema, it turned out that Yitassa Walili,

chairman of the peasants' association, was from Benat. He had left three years before and had no regrets.

Metema was a good 20 degrees hotter. It was malarial. But it was fertile. Of 6,137 settlers, only 671 had decided to go home. Harvests were 90 per cent of capability, the chairman said. The virgin site, now cleared of forest, had produced enough sorghum and maize for self-sufficiency.

The Government plans to resettle another 60,000 families this year. About 100 settlers had arrived that day, and Bob Geldof went to talk to them. One farmer, Gebre Makonnen, sitting in a makeshift shelter with his wife and four children, said that when the food ran out in his village he walked to Benat, where during the last famine he had lived for a year in a refugee camp.

This time, he said, there was no food. "If they had food there I would have taken it and gone home. But officials told me either to go home without food or to come to resettlement. I came. Now I will never go back."

Earlier in the week aid officials had told Mr Geldof that between 6,000 and 12,000 people from rebel-held areas had spontaneously gathered in Benat. He asked government officials if he could go and look. No, they said, that would not be possible. Anyway there is no one there now. They have all gone.

## Gibraltar milestone

### Hassan legacy of airport issue

From Dominique Searle, Gibraltar

Twenty years after they chose to stay British in a referendum, Gibraltarians are today seeking a new political direction after the resignation yesterday of Sir Joshua Hassan, their long-serving Chief Minister.

He leaves behind for his successors: the controversial choice between the promise of economic expansion, linked to sharing Gibraltar's airport facilities with Spain, or maintaining the status quo.

As the man largely responsible for having forged the framework from Gibraltar's parliamentary system which he himself dominated, Sir Joshua saw the choice element of the aviation agreement as a step forward in that democratic process.

He has called the arrangement for joint use of Gibraltar airport, worked out in intense negotiations between Britain and Spain under the EEC's aegis last week, a "good deal" which does not infringe on sovereignty. But neither he nor his "hen" apparent, Mr Adolfo Canepa, is saying whether he will back it politically.

Sir Joshua's greatest rival, Mr Joe Bossano, the leader of the Opposition, has already said that he will reject the joint-use option and will probably fight at the European Court for Gibraltar's inclusion in the EEC's cheaper air fares package.

As everyone on the Rock waited for a lead from the Chief Minister, Sir Joshua said at the weekend that Gibraltarians are not at this moment psychologically ready to make an objective choice. He knew that he could sway public opinion, but clearly did not want to face the risk of losing an election at this stage of his career.

Informed sources had been indicating that, with Mr Bossano committed to reject the airport deal, the government party may have decided to wait until it could see the true impact of the package on Europe, and then call an election on the basis that it would consult the people before making a firm decision on the airport.

"I have an inclination to call it a day," Sir Joshua, aged 72,

said recently. "If I do not retire now it must be next time, biologically it must be so. But I am under pressure to carry on from a wide circle of people who think it is in the public interest."

Were it not for continued pressure from the Spanish claim to sovereignty over Gibraltar, Sir Joshua's greatest political gamble — accepting in February, 1985, the Brussels agreement on opening Gibraltar's frontier with Spain — would have made the inhabitants of the Rock believe they had never had it so good.

After 16 years of harsh restriction and a collapsed economy, life for the Gibraltarians was transformed overnight from virtual bankruptcy to potential profitability.



Sir Joshua: Pleas kept him at helm when ready to go.

But events like the mass demonstration against concessions to Spain a month ago show that the euphoria which surrounded the frontier opening is over, even though the private-sector economy is finding its feet because of the ease of access.

Apart from his experience in dealing with successive British governments, Sir Joshua had two main sources of power. First, his intimate knowledge of the tactics Spain used in pursuit of its sovereignty claim allowed him to appeal to the electorate for trust. Secondly, Gibraltar's paradox of being a village with a national voice was handled by the Chief Minister as if nothing could be more natural.

## Hong Kong snub

Mr Martin Lee QC, an elected member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council and an outspoken critic of the pace of reform there, walked out of a meeting at the Foreign Office yesterday when the minister he was seeing refused to meet all nine members of a delegation from the colony (Nicholas Beeston writes). He spent only five minutes with the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Glenarthur, who has responsibilities for the territory, before leaving the meeting.

### Prices soar

Ankara (Reuters) — Prices of some consumer goods were increased by as much as 100 per cent and rail fares by a third as part of Turkey's austerity programme.

### Peking change

Peking (Reuters) — A large battle of Mao Tse-tung was blown up here to make way for a library paid for by a Hong Kong capitalist.

### Games threat

Geneva (Reuters) — Señor Juan Antonio Samaranch is to call on his Olympic executive to ban from future Games states boycotting the event in Seoul, South Korea, next year.

### Avalanche toll

Lima (AFP) — Rescue workers counted 67 dead and 200 missing in the wake of floods and avalanches which cut off a dozen villages in central and south Peru, officials said.

### Nude jogging

Nice (Reuters) — French police have been told to prohibit nude joggers after complaints from strollers on the Promenade des Anglais.

### Muted protest

Port-au-Prince (AFP) — Haitians only partially observed the second day of a general strike called to demand the resignation of the ruling National Governing Council.

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1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the symptoms and the context in which they are occurring.

2. The second step is to gather information. This includes looking at the data, talking to the people involved, and understanding the system.

3. The third step is to analyze the information. This involves looking for patterns, identifying the root cause, and understanding the impact of the problem.

4. The fourth step is to develop a solution. This involves brainstorming ideas, evaluating options, and choosing the best one.

5. The fifth step is to implement the solution. This involves putting the plan into action, monitoring progress, and making adjustments as needed.

6. The sixth step is to evaluate the results. This involves looking at the data, talking to the people involved, and understanding the impact of the solution.

7. The seventh step is to document the process. This involves writing a report, creating a manual, and sharing the information with others.

8. The eighth step is to review the process. This involves looking at the data, talking to the people involved, and understanding the impact of the solution.

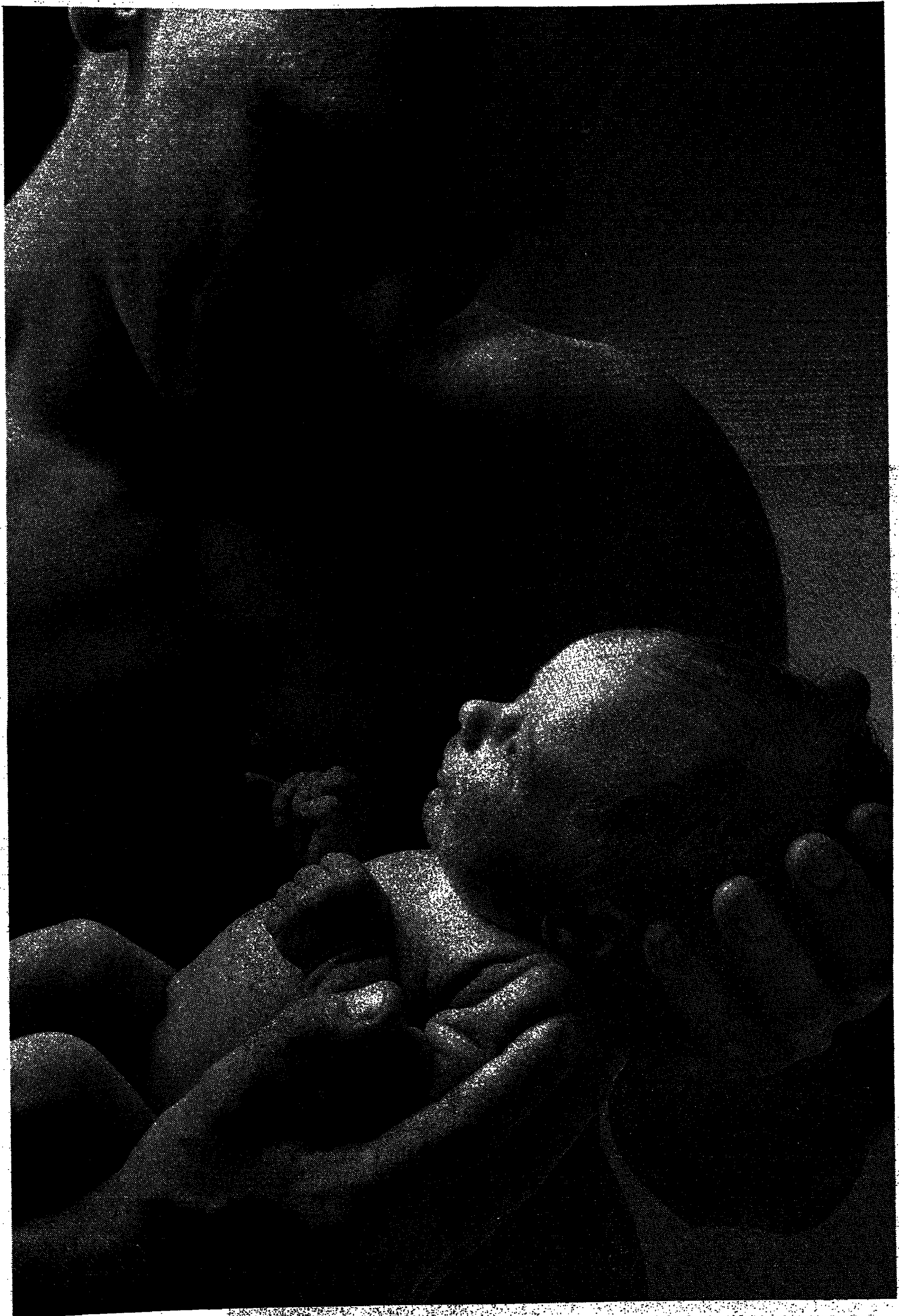
9. The ninth step is to improve the process. This involves looking at the data, talking to the people involved, and understanding the impact of the solution.

10. The tenth step is to repeat the process. This involves looking at the data, talking to the people involved, and understanding the impact of the solution.

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**Nude jogging**

**Muted protest**



1998

**NEW OPERATING SYSTEMS AND PERSONAL SYSTEMS ARE THE MAIN FOCUS OF INNOVATION IN MICROELECTRONICS CORPORATION**



# Managua's capture of US pilot reopens Contra arms issue

From David Collob in Managua and Martha Honey in San José, Costa Rica

A Cessna 162 plane flown by an American citizen has been shot down over Nicaraguan territory and the pilot captured, the Nicaragua Defence Ministry announced in Managua yesterday.

Documents found on the plane showed that the US pilot, identified as a Mr James Jordan Denby, was engaged "in the illegal activities of the US Government against Nicaragua", a Defence Ministry official said, reading from a prepared statement.

In October last year another US citizen, Mr Eugene Hasenfus, was captured when a plane carrying arms for the Contra rebels also came down in Nicaragua. Mr Hasenfus, the only survivor from the plane, was eventually released after he publicly confessed his links with the Contras and US intelligence and apologized to the Sandinista Government for his activities.

The Cessna, shot down on Sunday, was forced to make an emergency landing after anti-aircraft fire damaged the fuel tank, the Defence Ministry official said. It landed near the town of San Juan del Norte, close to the Costa Rican border, on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast, about 300 miles south-east of Managua.

On Monday the Costa Rican newspaper, *La Nación*, reported that a Cessna aircraft piloted by a man with a similar name to that of Mr

James Denby was missing while en route from Honduras to Costa Rica. The newspaper published a diagram allegedly showing the plane's presumed flight path.

A report on official Radio Sandino described Mr James Denby as a "mercenary" connected with Contra supply operations run from a secret airstrip in Costa Rica, on land allegedly owned by an American rancher, Mr John Hull. Mr Hull has repeatedly denied claims of involvement in CIA-run covert operations against Nicaragua.

Contra, CIA and mercenary sources in Costa Rica confirmed yesterday that during the last few years Mr Denby has worked with Mr Hull. Mr Denby, aged 60, is a farmer from Carlinville, Illinois, who owns farm property along Costa Rica's border with Nicaragua. He has admitted in press reports that Contras have trained and lived on his farmland.

Sources in Costa Rica also claim that he was connected with the secret arms supply network set up by the former US National Security Council aide, Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North. In addition, he is said to have worked with a group of foreign mercenaries arrested in Costa Rica in 1975, including a British citizen, Mr Peter Glibbery. Mr Denby allegedly assisted several of them to flee Costa Rica.

Expected to be presented to the press in Managua within the next few days, Mr Denby could provide details about how this clandestine supply network has continued to function in the wake of the Iran-Contra scandal.

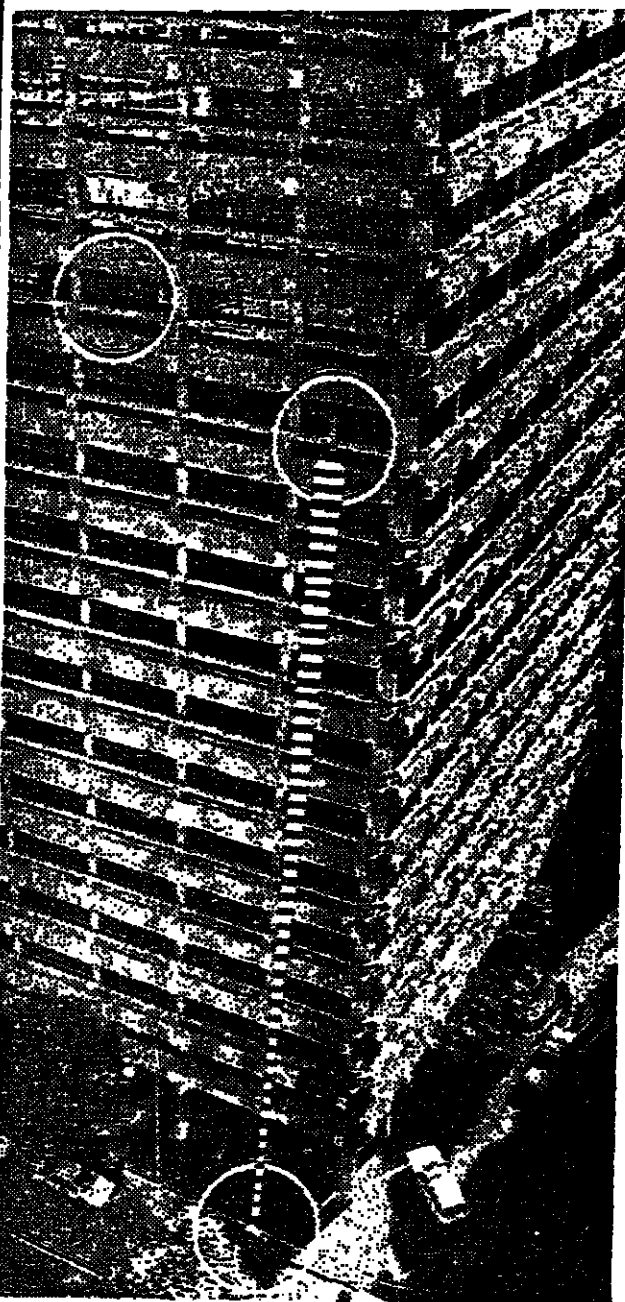
● **BOGOTÁ:** Fresh allegations in the Iran-Contra scandal of links between Colonel Oliver North's private aid network to the Contras and Colombian cocaine racketeers have surfaced in the Colombian press (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

The allegations are made in an interview with the Bogotá publication, *Cronos Magazine*, given by a Puerto Rican woman and US citizen dubbed "Wanda Doe" by a US Senate committee which heard her Iran-Contra testimony in private.

In essence, she supports claims that Colonel North's team forged an unholy arms-for-cocaine alliance with the drug barons whose smuggling expertise was used to ferry CIA arms to the Contra insurgents.

She also claims Colonel North was tricked by the racketeers, who instead of running the arms exclusively to the Contras, hedged their bets on the final outcome of the Nicaraguan conflict by splitting them evenly between the insurgents and the Sandinistas.

## Gunman leaps to his death after killings



The post office building with markers showing the windows broken by the gunman and the course of his suicide fall.



An ambulance wheeling away one of the five workers injured in yesterday's shooting.

From Keith Dalton, Sydney

A 22-year-old man armed with a rifle shot dead four office workers and injured five more after an argument yesterday in a post office building in the centre of Melbourne. He then fought off employees and jumped 12 storeys to his death.

Four people were killed inside a lift in the Queen Street building as the unidentified man walked through several floors, firing indiscriminately, police said.

An ambulance officer, Mr Ian Patrick, said: "It was a slaughterhouse. It was a gruesome sight." He spoke after ambulance workers had combed the building for victims of the city's bloodiest shooting in years. They found five other people injured, one of them seriously.

Police have not yet identified the man, whose body remained face down on the roped-off pavement hours after police began investigating the mass shooting. They said he carried a military-style rifle and ammunition.

A secretary outside the 18-storey building

told how he rampaged through three floors, firing at will as office workers dived for cover beneath desks. The 20 or more shots caused panic in the street below. Motorists hid inside cars and pedestrians ran to safety, bringing to a halt one of the city's busiest streets.

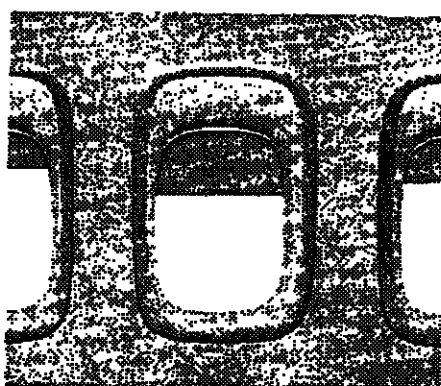
The Victoria state assistant commissioner for crime, Mr Vaughan Werner, told a press conference: "We have not been able to establish any particular motivating factor." He denied official reports that the gunman had intended to rob a credit union on the fifth floor, saying only that the armed man had had a "confrontation" with another man before he began his shooting.

Tackled by office workers on the 11th floor, he was disarmed but was able to smash a window and plunged headlong through the opening. A witness in the building opposite said: "He was caught by the legs. They grabbed him and tried to pull him back in, but he kicked loose and fell."

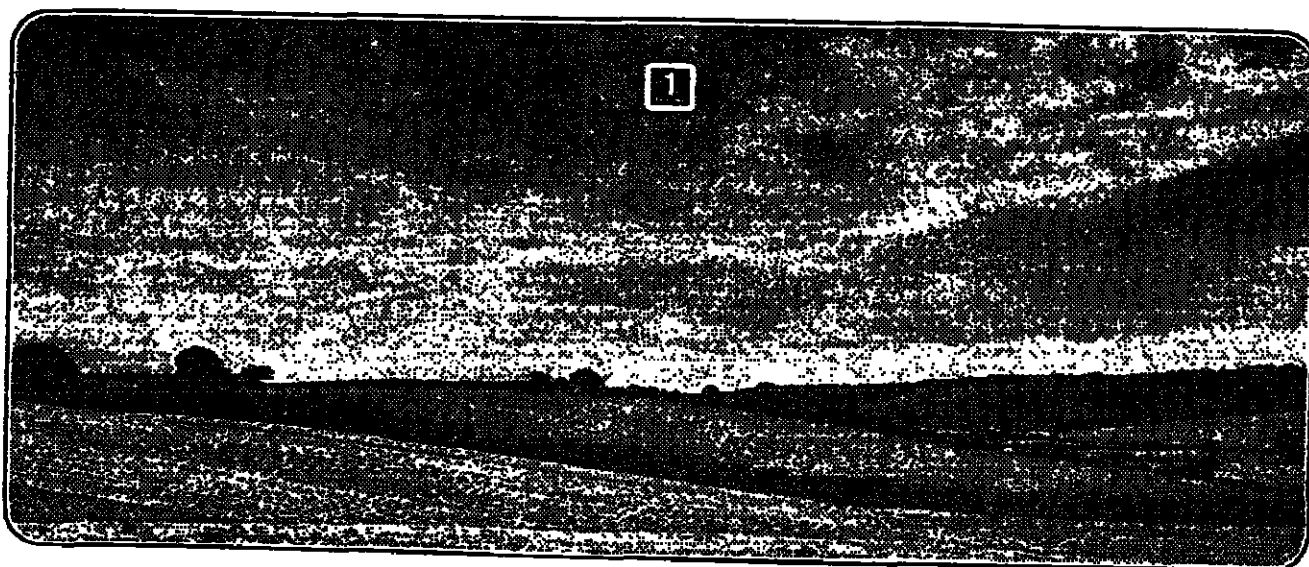
## What are your views on business travel?



Narrow?



None at all?



Wide open?

Civilised travel begins with an InterCity guide. Phone 01-200 0200 for your copy.

**INTERCITY**

## Yugoslavs seek to ease debt burden

From Dassa Trevisan, Belgrade

How close Yugoslavia's troubled economy is to collapse has been revealed at a meeting of the Central Committee. Mr Janez Zemljarić, the Deputy Prime Minister, announced that the country is no longer able to service its external \$20,000 million (£11,100 million) debt and needs long-term rescheduling to reduce the annual burden.

Yugoslavia has so far paid more than \$14,000 million (£7,700 million) on servicing its debt in the course of four years, using up almost half of its export earnings in the process. Talks with foreign creditors are due to begin early in the new year and are expected to ease the debt burden and enable the country to revive its economy.

The Government claims that high inflation is caused by this foreign debt burden as well as other domestic economic problems which have brought industrial growth practically to a standstill.

Inflation, which is spiralling and could top 200 per cent before the end of the year, is expected to be reduced once the Government's so-called anti-inflationary programme gets going. The Government is intent on reducing public spending and it has already imposed drastic wage freeze and credit restrictions.

However, because the whole range of basic essentials from food to electricity recently rose by an average of 50 per cent, this has already pushed living costs up by 20 per cent in one month alone and brought about yet another series of strikes.

Workers, more than half of whom are said to be living on the verge of poverty, are leaving the trade unions, which they accuse of doing nothing to safeguard their interests. People are leaving the Communist Party, too, because they are frustrated by its inability to come to grips with the economic and political crises.

## Letter from Ouagadougou

### Race for Utopia slows to a crawl

There are no traffic jams in Ouagadougou. The occasional car or lorry is outnumbered by the myriad motor scooters and bicycles which proceed at a moderate pace down the wide, tree-shaded streets in town centre.

There are no skyscrapers either in this truly African town. The colours of the roomy, colonial-style houses are the same as those of the red and ochre African earth. Most of the low, airy buildings in the town house ministries and government offices with such names as the Ministry for Water, the Ministry for Herds and Grazing, and the Ministry for Peasantry.

Ouagadougou is the capital of Burkina Faso — the new name given to Upper Volta by Captain Thomas Sankara when he seized power in 1983 at the start of a fiercely nationalist revolution. Everywhere there are signs of Captain Sankara's revolution — only the man himself is missing, shot dead six weeks ago in a presidential palace shoot-out between rival military factions. The coup has brought his long-time friend and closest colleague, Captain Blaise Compaoré, into the presidential hot seat.

Burkina Faso means "the land of the dignified". It was this vision of a truly independent, dignified nation that drove Captain Sankara to commit the excesses which, it is said, made him towards the end of his presidency unapproachable. There are slogans on every bus stop in town with such claims as "Burkina is the tomb of imperialism" and "Self-sufficiency above all".

Roadside kiosks selling produce like eggs, fruit and vegetables bear slogans exhorting people to eat only Burkina food. A sign outside a walled compound states: "Get your frozen Burkina rabbit here — 21 per cent more protein".

Walking down the main avenue in the rush hour means mingling with numbers

of calmly strolling pedestrians and a procession of mopeds leaving small clouds of white exhaust fumes in the clear African air. Every now and then along the roadside a man can be seen in the shade of a tree doing instant bicycle repairs.

Under President Sankara, offices shut early on Mondays and Thursdays so that everyone could participate in sports activities. He had already changed into his track suit on October 15 when he and several of his guards and advisers were shot.

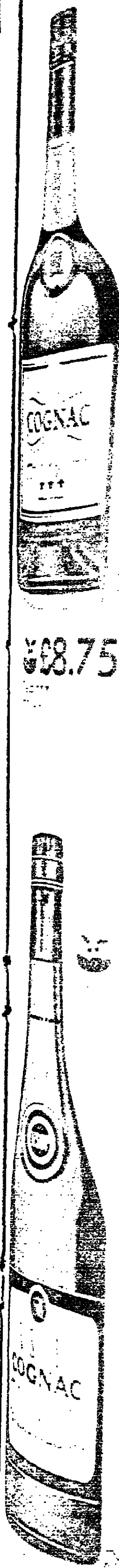
This week the twice-weekly sports activities continued, but in rather lethargic fashion; it is hot at 5pm, and anyway many people believe that the revolution inspired by Captain Sankara is drawing to its close.

At the end of the main avenue stands the presidential palace, now completely deserted with doors wide open and not a guard in sight. The new President and his advisers are holed up in the headquarters behind the palace, where security arrangements, not seen in other parts of the town, are strict. There is still a night curfew in place.

The land of the dignified is not an inappropriate name for this country, one of the poorest in the world, where the people are engaging and hard-working. In the first 20 years after independence from France in 1960, there was only one coup, but since 1980, when the military seized power, there have been four.

In 1983, when Captain Sankara came in with the help of three military colleagues, including Captain Compaoré, he tried to revolutionize the country in the shortest time possible. He appeared to have lost the support of his colleagues and of part of the population by outstripping them all in his striving for an African Utopia.

Susan MacDonald





150 جنيه الاصل

# Higher standards.



All advertised offers subject to availability and inclusive of VAT. At licensed stores only. Selected items not available in Scotland. Crossed out prices have been charged at Tesco Bar Hill, Cambridge and many other stores throughout the country, but have not necessarily been charged for 28 days in the last 6 months. Welcome on all purchases except from tobacco kiosks.



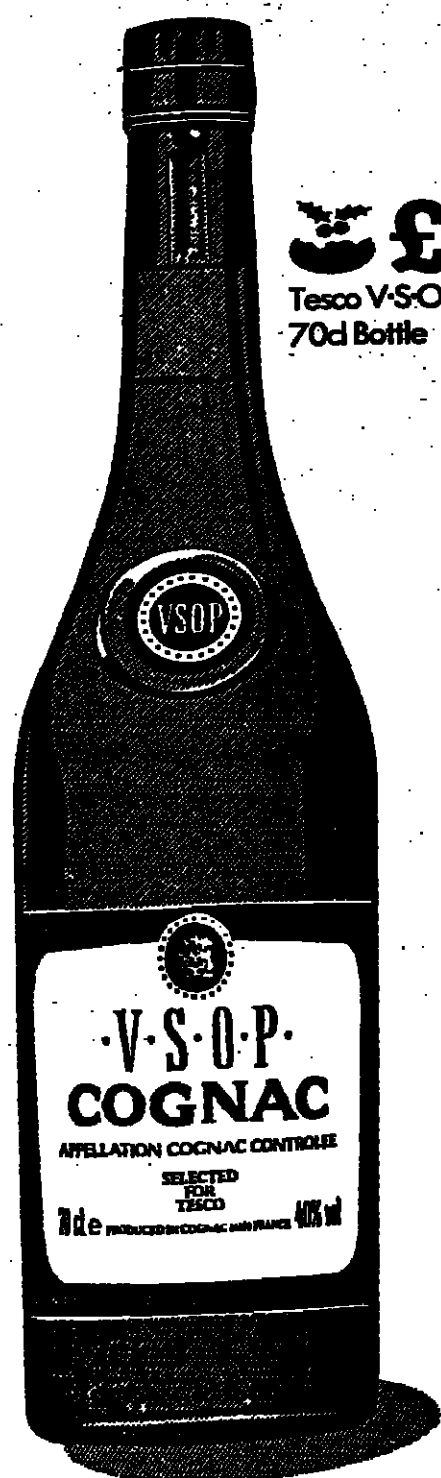
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**£8.75**  
Tesco ★★★ Cognac  
70cl Bottle



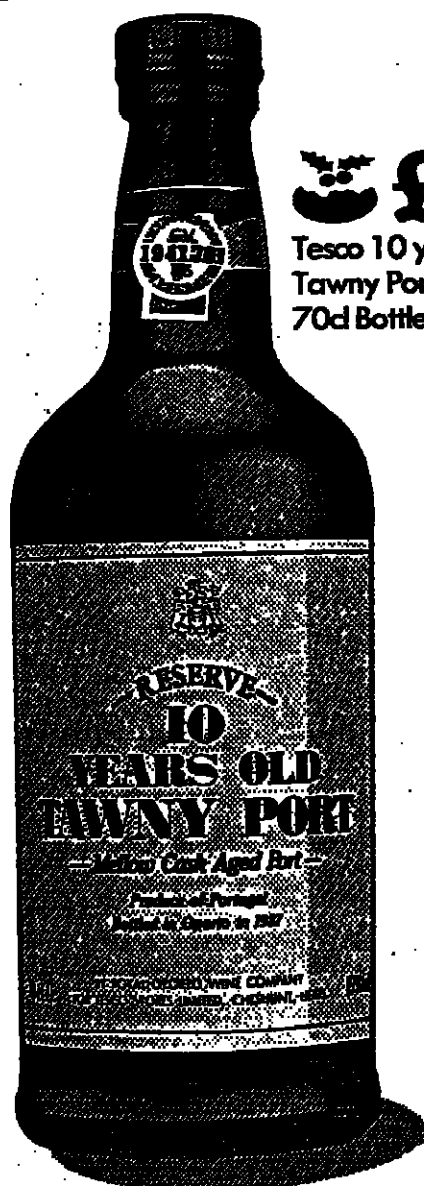
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Tesco Napoleon Brandy  
68cl Bottle



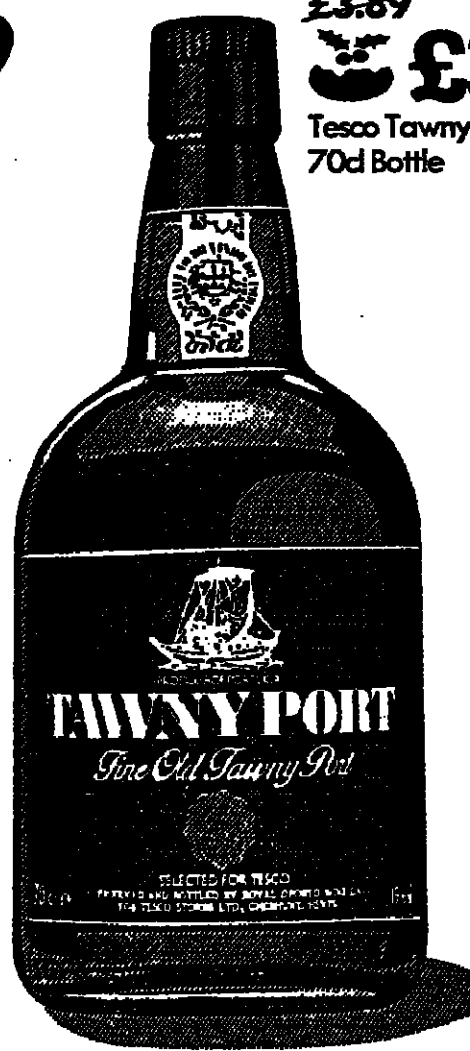
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Tesco Ruby Port  
70cl Bottle



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**£10.29**  
Tesco V-S-O-P Cognac  
70cl Bottle



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**£6.29**  
Tesco 10 years old  
Tawny Port  
70cl Bottle



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~~£4.59~~  
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Tesco Vintage  
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## SPECTRUM

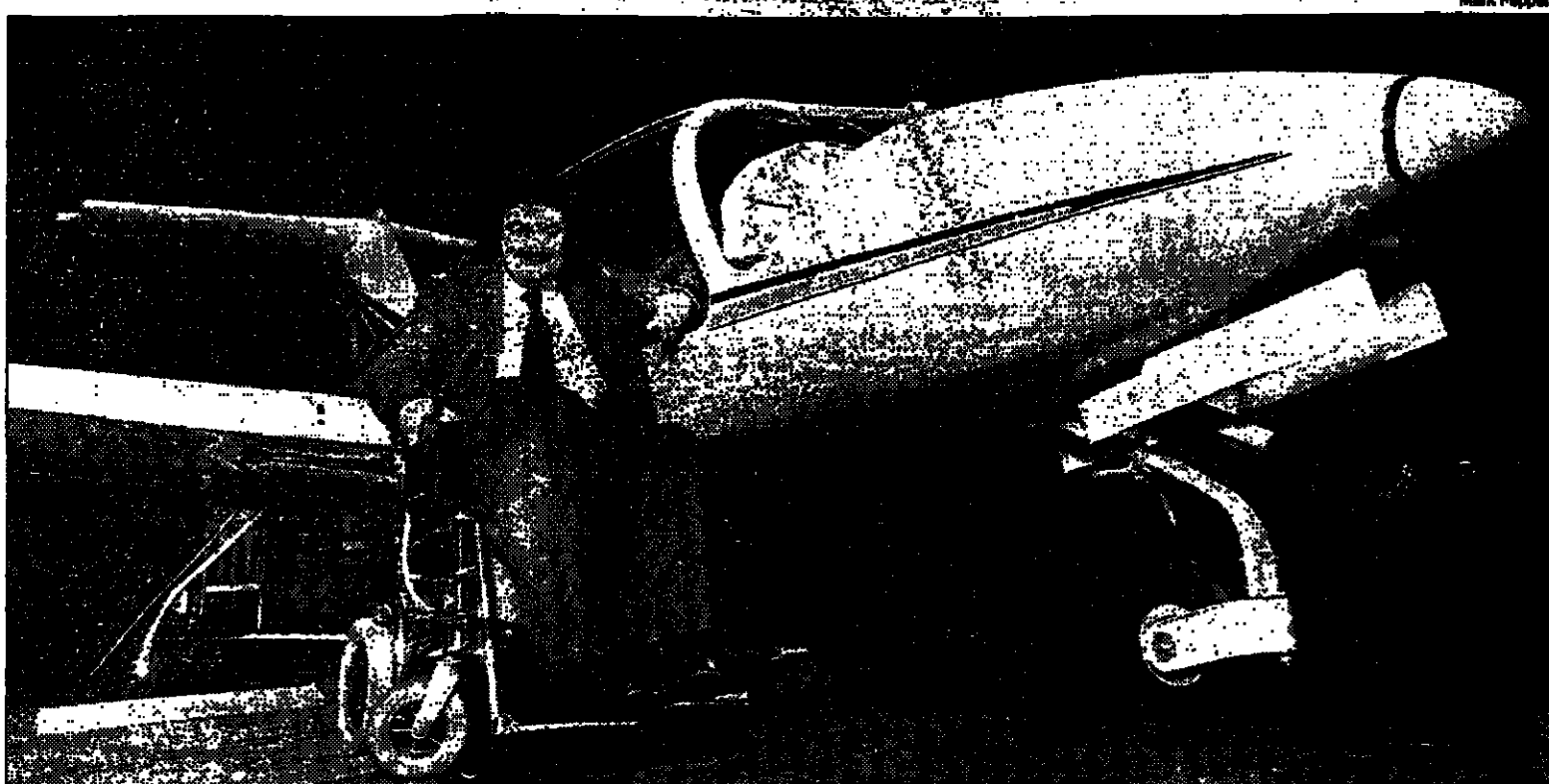
## All of our tomorrows

● From the go-anywhere wheelchair to the one-handed keyboard, from computers operated with the blink of an eye to voice-controlled wind-screen washers, the ingenuity directed at the disabled is never-ending

● The able-bodied, too, are constantly benefiting from this research; it has led to important changes in technology

● In the final part of our series we look at these advances — and at one man's determination to reach for the sky

### Plight of the disabled: 3 HI-TECH FUTURE



Soaring ambitions: Scott in his electric wheelchair with the Spar turbojet aircraft he is converting. "This is a commercial operation, not charity," he says.

There is an odd-looking device — at first glance a cross between a small tank and a rich child's toy — creeping over the bumper bits of Britain. It is like a mechanized chameleon, changing its posture and poise as the ground demands; cancelling cambers like a skier, devouring staircases and boldly going where no wheelchair has gone before.

It has a micro-processor to control and monitor its functions, it can get you out of most ruts and is generally less bumpy than a pair of legs.

The 19th century engineer Thomas Telford, whose name was taken for the new town where this electronic wheelchair is made, could not have done better. The machine is called the Mobility 2000; but be assured this is no mere advertising blurb. It describes a piece of technology which, long before the calendar catches up with its name, will probably help far more people than just the disabled for whom it was designed.

The beauty of the thing is that the seat of the chair always stays on exactly the same plane, no matter what the ground is doing. It is like the proverbial swan, serene on top but working like hell underneath. This attribute has already brought its designer, Robert Hester, several inquiries from the security and material-handling industries.

Some of the interest, he explains, centres on using the basic carriage for hazardous tasks such as bomb disposal, or even as a device for negotiating with armed terrorists. With a remote control unit, or an extended cable, the frame could bear mechanical arms, a hoist, camera, microphone, a device for setting off small explosives; almost anything except the kitchen sink. In fact, it could take a

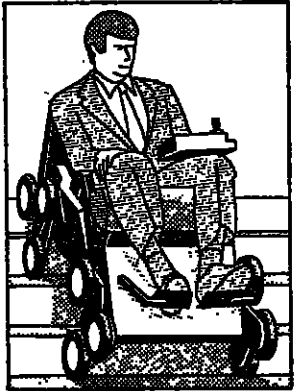
kitchen sink, or an office safe, lug it up a flight of stairs and turn on the landings without incurring a mechanical hernia.

Hester, an experienced production engineer, started to develop the chair nearly seven years ago, largely as a result of knowing an old man with osteo-arthritis, and seeing how much he relied on other people to take him out. There are now 24 of them in use, at a cost of £3,400 each.

The starting point for Hester was "to take the environment as it is and cope with it, rather than modify the environment to suit the disability". This may be a contentious concept among aid agencies, but it has clear advantages when applied to other areas.

One of the most important aspects of a development like Hester's is that it can turn a traditional logic on its head: that logic has it that disabled people are the costly recipients of handouts and can do little to advance the common good. In fact, their condition can be a catalyst for technological advance.

This morning at Lancaster House in St James's, London, the Manpower Services Commission will make its Fit For Work awards to firms who have done the most to im-



The Pegasus: Going where no wheelchair has gone before

prove the lot of their disabled employees. On display will be a range of the latest gadgetry, from braille computer word-processors to entire workstations that can be operated by head movement alone.

Already there are keyboards that can be activated by the blink of an eye. As Jeff Busby, who works for the Disabled Specialist Group of the British Computer Society, points out: "Absolutely any way of simplifying the operation of a computer has to be good news for everyone."

"Take for example the sort of keyboard that has been developed for the disabled and can be operated with one hand. This is going to be of immense value in, for example, avionics; for a pilot who's got his hands full."

"Remember that many so-called 'normal' people are disabled in some way, to the extent that they have come to rely on mechanical devices in the course of their everyday life. Remember, too, something that it's easy to forget — that disability comes to almost everyone in the end, in the form of old age."

At last year's Birmingham motor show there was an ordinary-looking Ford Escort which upstaged some of the more exotic creatures on display. It had been converted for use by the disabled in such a way that all the secondary functions could be activated by voice control. The demonstrators had but to say "serial" or "wiper" or "washer" and the appropriate parts would swing into action.

"Some of the people looking on were so intrigued and were getting so close that a few were drenched by the washer," says Brian Wright, customer service manager of Ford Personal Import Export Ltd. "The fascinating thing was that although here was a car fitted out for the disabled, most

spectators were able-bodied."

Kemp, the Strasbourg-based voice control specialist co-operating with Ford, has developed a technology which could just about handle all the functions necessary to drive a vehicle, but the motor company, seldom slow to vaunt innovations, admits this could be "a long time coming".

One of the boldest initiatives in linking the worlds of disabled and the rest has come from Dial Hampshire, a dynamic advisory agency working from a small office in Southsea. Its director is Pat Saunders, a redoubtable ex-serviceman who several years ago was paralysed "literally overnight" by a mysterious virus which he believes was Icelandic Disease, a condition so called because it afflicts only those who live in or have just visited that country.

He recalls that it was then that he designed "a thing" called Pegasus, "the first remote-controlled chair". It was electrically operated, with a control unit on the arm of the chair. "It was a bit like a radio-controlled car," he says. "I was a bit of an electronics tinkerer, and I was interested in buying the technology for use in a special vacuum cleaner to use inside nuclear power stations."

There is no stopping Saunders. "I tell you, at 20 years' time our society is going to owe a huge debt of gratitude to the disabled, if it doesn't already. There's all sorts of things that wouldn't be there but for us."

"Don't laugh, but quite soon I reckon we'll see widespread use of the electronic toilet. I have one in my home which works by means of a small arm with a jet of water and warm air, all operated by a push-button."

Saunders' beliefs in one more important way in which the disabled might take the lead. In the Act on the disabled being promoted by MP Tom Clarke, there will be the statutory right, to professional representation when they are being assessed for benefit by DHSS officers.

"Under the new system, the disabled person would have the expert on his side. The need would be established, and then the question of paying for it would be tackled. If that principle were written into other areas of benefit claim, the difference would be unimagineable."

Alan Franks

## A spirit that had to soar

Ten years ago, when Philip Scott was 20, he broke his neck while motor-racing. It left him tetraplegic: 85 per cent of his body is paralysed. He can move his head and shoulders and control his forearms and elbows to a limited degree, but not his fingers. He can throw a switch, or even practise laborious calligraphy (he is a book illustrator), but not do up a shirt-button; he can drive an adapted car, but not haul himself into his wheelchair.

He seems an unlikely candidate for a private pilot's licence, but there are a number of paraplegic flyers, who pilot adapted light aircraft without having the use of their legs. Paraplegics often develop unusual strength and dexterity in the upper part of the body; witness the Stoke Mandeville Olympics.

Tetraplegic is in a very different league. Foot controls are not use to him — neither are conventional hand controls. He cannot exert more than a minimum of force: it would be impossible, for instance, for him to combat normal torque (the twisting motion caused by a propeller against an aircraft's side) by operating a rubber pedal or lever. "When I'm flying with friends," Scott says lightly, "I operate the control column, and about

"He's the hardest man I've ever had to work for"

"I'm turning left," and then they have to put the rudder on."

So, about five years ago, he decided to develop a new sort of plane, one that he could fly alone. He and his father have set up a limited company, supported by commercial sponsorship (he offers advertising sites all over the wings and fuselage at air shows) and mustered an impressive number of supporting companies. The aerospace industry is becoming increasingly involved, not least out of self-interest: Westland, for example, is helping with the ergonomics of the cockpit and control systems.

As one of Scott's professional advisers observed: "Anything which makes aeroplanes less trying to fly, especially for military purposes, has got to be a good thing."

Birmingham University helped; and most important of all, the Cranfield Institute of Technology offered space for the new plane in its College of Aeronautics hangar in Bedfordshire, and is taking responsibility for construction and airworthiness.

Scott decided to deal with the problem of torque and physical strength by getting rid of the propellers, and using a turbojet engine, which is also safer because a jet plane has fewer controls, and uses kero-

### 'We all benefit, from the success of an individual'

se-based fuel which burns less fiercely. "An emergency evacuation by a disabled person is difficult."

That is an understatement. One of the main problems was not how to design the controls for crippled arms, but how to organize safe entry and exit from a small cockpit by a man of more than 6ft with 85 per cent paralysis.

Scott hopes to exhibit the plane, called Spar, at the Farnborough air show in 1988. Its body is that of an Orion G802, a French jet aeroplane, "which we bought unfinished from a Paris greengrocer", and is slowly being completed. Scott buzzes around it in his electric wheelchair while one of his volunteers works snatching: "Hardest man I ever worked for. Every time you stop, he comes at you in that chair, zip! with a monkey-wrench, pointing out something else to do." Scott is confident that if all goes well, he will soon be flying solo. Even the problem of map-reading has been electronically solved by Rascal's donation of a Dams computer display.

"I am very aware that I caused a lot of heartache to other people by breaking my neck on the motor bike," Scott says. "But I'm no more precious a creature than I was." He does not think that he is being selfish. "Operation Ability" as he calls it, is not a charity: its sponsors are commercial. "And we all benefit from individual success, like the first man on the moon."

Libby Purves

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## Living with Mr Holmes

In the month of the great detective's centenary, Peter Lewis finds his creator's daughter still defending him

All her life, Arthur Conan Doyle's daughter has lived with Sherlock Holmes. There are times when she has grown heartily sick of him.

In this, the centenary of the publication of the first Sherlock Holmes story, *A Study in Scarlet*, which came out in *Beeton's Christmas Annual* for 1887, the world-wide fascination with him goes on. And Air Commandant Dame Jean Conan Doyle, the last of the family, still has to spend time trying to prevent outrageous imitations.

"Everyone seems to think they can write a Holmes story," she says. "Holmes has taken over my life this year. I know exactly how my father felt and why he pushed him over the Reichenbach Falls. I sometimes feel, like he did, that if anyone else says Sherlock Holmes to me, I'll scream."

At the same time the legend of the great Victorian detective has grown so large it has eclipsed the real man behind the fiction. Dr Arthur Conan Doyle not only dreamed up Holmes and his partner Watson while waiting for patients who never came, but led an adventurous and versatile life in his own right. What popular author today could score 100 at Lord's and keep goal for Portsmouth?

"Father was dogged by Holmes," she says. "Wherever we went he was greeted as his creator." She describes how, in her teens, she accompanied her father on tours of America, Australia, and South Africa. Letters for Holmes would arrive at their home with requests to forward them. When Holmes at last "retired", to keep bees on the Sussex Downs, "mature ladies wrote in offering to keep house or to marry him. My father, who was a genial, benign man, was amused by this."

Nevertheless he was grateful to Holmes for setting him and his family free from the poverty of his own youth. While a medical student, he had sailed as a ship's doctor in order to help support his mother and sisters, who had been obliged to leave home as governesses. The hard times were due to Conan Doyle's father, Charles Doyle, who drank. He eventually disappeared into a "nursing home" (really a series of asylums) when Arthur was still a student. "I suppose

he had DTs," Dame Jean says, "my father never spoke of it, but people didn't in those days. He was certainly spurred on to write stories by the need he felt, as eldest son, to support the family."

It was out of these desperate straits that Holmes was born. Dame Jean has her father's copy of *A Study in Scarlet*. In the back of it he pasted the few notices it attracted, from Scottish and provincial papers which knew his name. They were good, as far as they went: "The author shows genius," said the *Scottsman*. Portsmouth papers commended it. The greatest world was silent. He pocketed £25 — 15 years later, his father's literary was commanding \$5,000 in America alone.

Now the world, especially America, is bombarded with "new" Holmes stories. There have been 200 films and no one knows how many books. "Any writer worth his salt should create his own characters," Dame Jean says. "A lot of harm is done by inferior imitations. If I could have my way, I would stop it altogether. As it is, I can only stop it in America."

As a direct descendant she is entitled under American law to 75 years' copyright from the date of publication. "The only way I can influence what happens here is by trying to maintain the standard there, by ensuring that they are in perfect and in character. I have an agent and a group of Sherlockian friends who read the manuscripts and keep an eye out for unauthorized publications."

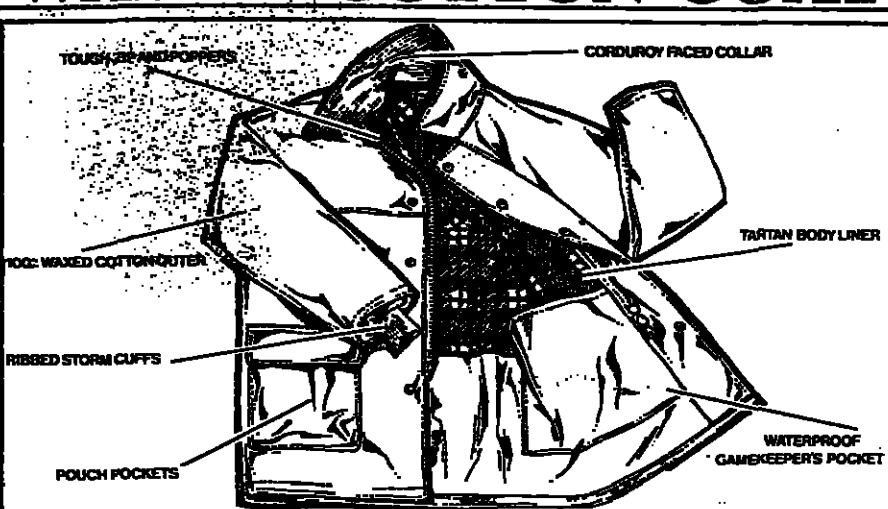
What of far-fetched flights of fancy, such as the idea in which Michael Caine is portraying Holmes as a drunken actor hired by Watson to impersonate a detective? "I haven't objected to that yet," she says. "A well-written spoof is different from a pastiche."

Dame Jean is thankful that she had time for a career of her own before she succeeded to take on the task of keeping up the Holmes standards on her brother's death in 1971. She rose to be director of the Women's RAF in the 60s, having joined before the war broke out, and married Air Vice Marshal Sir Geoffrey Bromet. "I was lucky to have had all that before Holmes caught up with me. It's only loyalty that keeps me at it."



Dame Jean: "It's loyalty"

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## TOMORROW Artfile: Sarah Jane Checkland on the new boom in auction house art books: are they ethical?

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9 Scrounger (7)

10 Fertile desert patch (5)

11 Devout (5)

12 Proverb (5)

13 Down track (5)

15 Sheep (5)

16 US loafah (5)

18 Triffing (5)

20 Awarder (5)

21 Commerce restraint (7)

23 Des Moines state (4)

24 Italian airline (8)

DOWN

1 Spanish inn (6)

2 Siege Western (3,5)

3 Archaeology site (3)

4 Met Police founder (3,6,4)

6 Verdant (4)

7 Examiner (6)

8 Clog (8)

11 Sweet (8)

14 Postponement (8)

15 African charm (6)

16 Polar sky lights (6)

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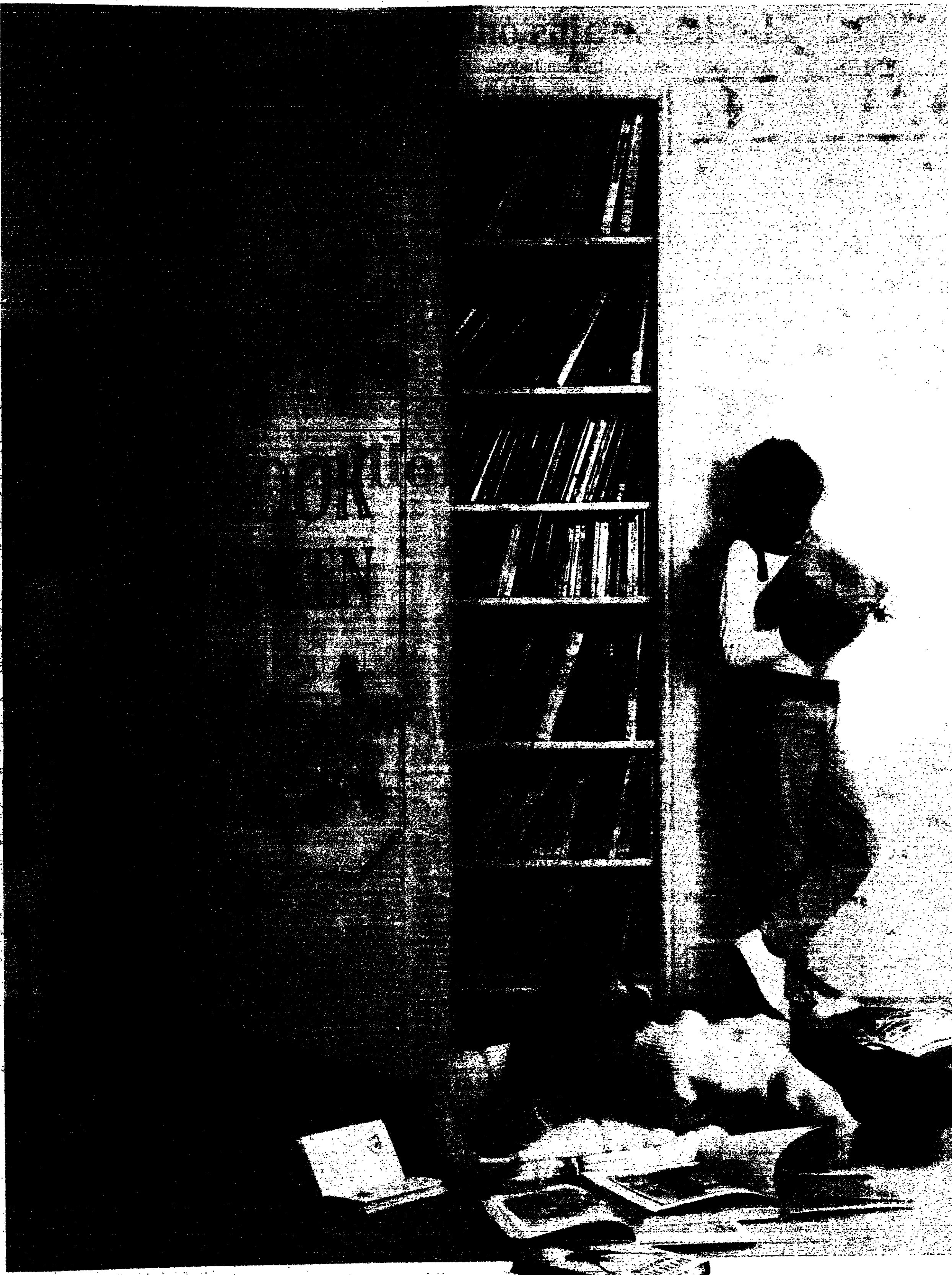
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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Leading question

Parliamentary private secretaries were flummoxed yesterday afternoon over a flagrant breach of House of Commons practice by one of their number, Roger King, Tory MP for Birmingham Northfield, invited the PM during question time to shoot down the move for a banded community charge (suggested by Sir George Young and others) which would be based on an individual's ability to pay. After groans from all sides about the apparent toadyism, Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Selly Oak, flounced out of the Chamber in protest against his neighbour's behaviour. His irritation must have been fuelled by the knowledge that King is PPS to Michael Howard, the local government minister responsible for poll tax. Westminster convention dictates that PPSs never speak on matters concerned with their ministers' subjects. The question now being asked is whether King acted off his own bat or had been encouraged by a superior to plant this question.

### Late lunch

Food at a lunch given in Uganda by minister Eriya Kategaya's honour at the Admiralty yesterday took so long to arrive that stomachs began to rumble. Lynda Chalker, the Foreign Office minister for Africa, was forced to explain that the vegetables were stuck in a malfunctioning dumb waiter and until they could be freed, the beef was best left in the oven. Kategaya smartly replied that it could not have happened in Kampala — because there is no lift.

● There was a chastening moment for Bob Geldof on his tour of famine-stricken Ethiopian towns and villages. Western pop stars, it seems, are all alike to the average farmer. In one village in Tigré province a local dignitary gave profuse thanks for the singer's international aid, addressing his remarks to "Michael Jackson".

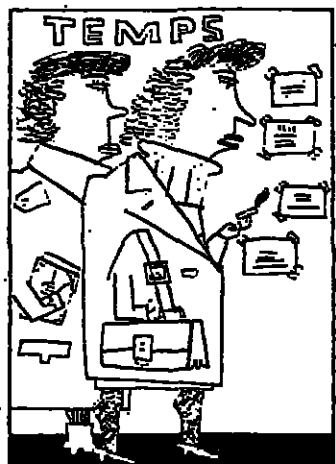
### Bill hooks

Printers at Her Majesty's Stationery Office are finding the government's crowded legislative programme a bit much. The re-printing of the housing bill, due to an omission, was only the start. Since then the education bill has appeared with a spelling mistake on the first page, and the loss of a computer disc nearly scuppered the timing of the legal aid bill. Yesterday, the Housing (Scotland) Bill was published carrying the now familiar addendum stating that it was a substitute for the previously delivered paper. On the original document schedule 10 had been omitted and part of schedule five printed twice.

### Breaking even

China has got its own back on the Irish museum, where two years ago one of its 2,000-year-old terracotta figures was injured by a falling spotlight. The PM of the day, Garrett FitzGerald, has just returned from a visit to China with a fractured arm, accidentally sustained at one of its tourist traps. Unlike the terracotta, the arm looks as if it will be quickly mended. "Dr Fitzgerald is still able to negotiate," his office mysteriously reassures me.

BARRY FANTONI



'Here's one. Shorthand, typing and TV camera operator'

### Ticket touts

The Prime Minister will today receive an early Christmas present from the National Campaign for the Arts, whose president is Melvyn "I didn't apply for the Channel 4 job" Bragg — but it may be one she and Denis could do without. As part of a 100,000-signature petition calling on the House of Commons to give the arts a better deal, and an afternoon lobby of Parliament, the campaign will donate two tickets to Mrs Thatcher for any event put on by one of its 5,000 members. Cultural excursions have proved tricky in the past: when the PM went to the opera earlier this year she was buttonholed by Plácido Domingo over cuts in arts funding. Her options include the Royal Shakespeare Company, English National Opera and the Coudé take Institute, but the couple could take the opportunity to broaden their artistic horizons. After all, the High Jinks Theatre in Cardiff or London's Monstrous Regiment troupe are also members.

PHS

# Hidden strains on the NHS

by Ken Judge

The clamour for more spending on the National Health Service is reaching a climax. Improved efficiency in the use of hospital beds and shortages of trained staff have resulted in wards and equipment lying idle and surgeons frustrated as operations are cancelled and waiting lists grow. But it would be a great mistake for the government to respond with a quick financial Elastoplast. It is essential to examine the underlying pressures on the NHS and to link additional spending with a radical review of how resources are managed and used.

Since the early 1980s, when cash limits were introduced, the public expenditure constraints on the NHS have been tighter than at any time in its history. Some of the pressure has been eased by greater efficiency, which brought savings of £158 million in 1986-87. But two reports from the National Audit Office have highlighted the danger of cost improvements masking cuts in services. Any marked reduction in this source of "extra" funding is likely to pose serious strains on the system.

Even more impressive than financial savings have been the dramatic increases in productivity: more patients are treated more quickly than ever before. Paradoxically, this exacerbates the current funding problem. The more patients who are treated, the higher the costs. So the easiest way

for authorities to keep within budget is to limit admissions.

Another source of pressure is that more people are surviving into old age. The elderly are heavy users of the NHS, and spending should increase by 1 per cent a year to meet their needs. Extra expenditure is also required to provide services for newly emerging health needs such as breast cancer screening and services for Aids sufferers.

By comparing resources made available to English health authorities since 1981-82 with extra demands arising from demographic change, medical advance and service development, it is possible to estimate that the cumulative deficit on hospital spending in the 1980s is about 5 per cent. But another way of looking at the deficit is that if English health authorities had been adequately compensated for the pressures which they face they could look forward to expenditure in 1988 more than £600 million in excess of that announced at the time of the Chancellor's autumn statement.

By international standards the underspending appears even greater. In 1985 the average OECD country spent 7.6 per cent of GDP on health, compared with 5.7 per cent in Britain. But health spending is linked both to national

prosperity and to the proportion of health care financed by the taxpayer. Taking account of these factors suggests that British investment in public health spending ought to have been 15 per cent higher than it was. At today's prices that represents a shortfall in excess of £3 billion.

The political pressure to spend more on health appears unstoppable. The question is not whether the government will succumb, but when, how much and how grudgingly. The real challenge for ministers, therefore, is to link additional investment with a major review of clinical management and priorities which will reduce the risk of future financial crises. Two possibilities are worth close examination.

First, there is a growing body of opinion among health authority chairmen and managers that the major source of potential efficiency savings lies in the medical and nursing fields. One major example is nurse staffing, which accounts for over one quarter of NHS expenditure. The government could well offer a major restructuring of nurses' pay in return for savings in this area.

A second example is variations in clinical practice. The performance indicators published by the DHSS reveal wide differences in

the efficiency with which clinicians provide services. Yesterday's report into deaths following operations, for example, highlights cases of "unnecessary and inhumane" surgery, of untrained doctors undertaking inappropriate procedures, and of unnecessary deaths associated with poor standards. If the government can be persuaded to inject substantial sums of additional money into the hospital services, one of the preconditions ought to be a searching review of the organization and management of acute services.

The second area for examination is concerned with what the NHS should be trying to provide. Health care covers a spectrum ranging from acute life saving interventions to minor, life-quality enhancing procedures. Can the taxpayer be expected to finance all of them?

The chairman of Wessex Regional Health Authority, Sir Bryan Thwaites, has suggested that a man with an unwanted tattoo, an unlikely survivor of heroic surgery and a woman requiring in vitro fertilization, do not represent legitimate claims on the health services. Perhaps the Social Services Committee of the Commons, meeting today to appoint a new chairman, could stimulate public debate in this area.

The author is director of the King's Fund Institute.

# Washington follies



In the Oval Office, Carter was at the centre of competing groups who led him into a diplomatic shambles

Nicholas Henderson examines, in the light of the 'Soviet combat unit' fiasco of 1979, the diffuse nature of the American power system with which Mikhail Gorbachov is now negotiating

the Russians were up to in Cuba increased doubts about the wisdom of raising Salt II.

Vance gave a press conference on September 5 in which he said that the US "would not be satisfied with the status quo". He went on to explain: "The combat nature of the units is a matter of very serious concern to us." President Carter spoke on television about the need for firm diplomacy. The Soviet government, which had been asked for clarification, gave a reply, which Pravda published on September 10, saying blandly that there had been a Soviet training centre in Cuba for the past 17 years.

One of the most extraordinary features of the whole episode is the delay of the US intelligence community in telling those responsible for taking decisions that the Soviet unit was a successor of the one that had been there in 1962 and that had remained there with the tacit consent of the Kennedy administration.

It is, of course, one of the tribulations of the US system that there is no institutional memory. Those taking decisions and making announcements on this occasion on behalf of the government were not informed that Soviet troops had remained in Cuba after the withdrawal of the missiles in

1963. Repeated US government statements gave the impression, not only that there was a new Soviet unit there, but that it was a combat one. To the question why the NSA did not check before using the emotive word combat, Stansfield Turner asserts this was because the "name of the game was getting credit for the scoop".

This reveals another contour of the Washington landscape — the intense struggle for power, not just between the legislature and the executive, but between various arms of the government and between the various agencies involved in intelligence. The very term "intelligence community" is ironic. One may also ask why Stansfield Turner, who was not only director of Central Intelligence but director of the CIA, did not himself immediately press for a thorough interpretation of the latest intelligence.

Only after the subject had been blown up into a domestic political and international crisis did it become apparent in Washington that the Soviet unit in Cuba comprised fewer than 3,000 men, had no sea transport or air lift and could not possibly pose any military threat. Meanwhile the US government had gone out on a limb. With Brzezinski inflaming the issue in order to present the

president as a tough leader, and a senator declaring the unit was part of a Soviet plan to build "fortress Cuba", Vance was led into a series of meetings with the Soviet ambassador (Anatoly Dobrynin) and the Soviet foreign secretary (Andrei Gromyko).

Vance began by trying to find out more about the nature of the Soviet unit, and to get the Russians to dissolve it. Gromyko explained that the Soviet force was not a combat one and that, contrary to allegations in the US, did not violate any US-Soviet understandings reached at the time of the 1962 Cuban crisis.

Vance, when he became aware of the truth appears to have appealed to the Russians to help get the Americans off the hook, somewhat as he thought the Russians should do in their own interests to ensure ratification of Salt II. Not surprisingly, the Russians were not prepared to play. From their statements they appeared to believe that the ratification of Salt II was doomed anyway, the combat brigade story an invention to explain the failure.

The president decided to address the nation and deliver a message aimed at reducing tension. His speech amounted to a skillful exercise in eating the administration's own words. He criticized the government from its commitment not to accept the status quo by saying that the US was now satisfied on the basis of high-level Soviet statements and that it would be introducing measures to increase surveillance and military readiness. What it amounted to was that the status quo had been changed unilaterally — by the Americans.

Sir Nicholas Henderson was Ambassador to Washington 1979-82.

Chris Pomery on fears of a British sell-out on expected moves to democratic elections

## Hong Kong feels a colder draught

of "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong", the joint declaration promised a "high degree of autonomy" post-1997, and a legislature "constituted by elections".

However, as soon as Parliament ratified the declaration in 1985, Chinese officials began a damage-control exercise. The Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, promised that Hong Kong's lifestyle would remain unchanged for 50 years, cautioning that direct elections might not be the right solution for Hong Kong. China's senior representative in the territory, Xu Jiatun, lost his temper and accused Britain of sponsoring "deviations" from the joint declaration.

China simultaneously set up a drafting committee to write Hong Kong's post-1997 constitution — known as the Basic Law — and a

consultative committee (BLCC) of "Hong Kong compatriots". China is eager to ensure that proposed British reforms should "converge" and not pre-empt the Basic Law before it is promulgated in 1990. A first draft is due next year, the date previously pencilled in for Hong Kong's first direct elections.

Pragmatic pressures to accede to China's impending sovereignty are strong; the business elite on the BLCC has aligned itself with many Chinese proposals favouring a strong centralized "consensus" government, an absence of party politics and a population little troubled by elections.

The British have capitulated to Chinese pressure and discussed Hong Kong's political evolution with China at meetings of the joint liaison group set up to co-ordinate the fine print of the joint declara-

tion during transition. China is now consulted by Britain's senior representative, the Governor, Sir David Wilson, at every stage.

The Hong Kong government is increasingly unable to act openly as the "consensus" that is its only mandate evaporates. The chief secretary, David Ford, insists that the political review is genuinely open, but that government should not "lead public opinion". The executive council will decide, in camera, the timetable for change before February next year.

The effects of Chinese pressure are already visible. Emigration figures are rising, primarily young professionals from the emerging, articulate but still disenfranchised, middle-class. Canada, the favoured destination, expects to grant nearly 22,000 immigrant visas this year, compared with 8,000 in 1986.

There is a deep sense of betrayal in Hong Kong. "Promises were made both to the people of Hong Kong and the British Parliament, and that is a matter of record," states Martin Lee.

Britain, like China, regards the Hong Kong issue as solved. Unless aspirations like direct elections are met soon, Hong Kong may be left with policies that can bring trouble in the future.

Digby Anderson

## Academies of union unrest?

Ann Winterton, MP for Congleton, has just asked an intriguing series of parliamentary questions about trade unions, nearly as intriguing as the answers. The questions hint that the government may not be doing all it should about them. Now, whatever the gap between its rhetoric and the reality of its policies on other matters, surely the Thatcher administration's record on trade unions is impeccable — at least to Conservatives such as Mrs Winterton. Indeed, the success of the employment acts of 1980 and 1982 and the trade union act of 1984 in curbing union power and reducing strikes is obvious, and the new employment bill promises further progress on union elections and accounts. What is left?

A small matter but an instructive one. Mrs Winterton wants to know about shop-steward courses in colleges. She asks how many courses have been on such courses: Mr Robert Jackson for the Secretary of State for Education and Science replies that the question could only be answered at disproportionate cost. She asks if the TUC is involved in selecting the staff for the courses. Mr Jackson does not know. There are many details which Mr Jackson does not know. Perhaps understandably he appears to know little of what is actually taught in such courses beyond the titles of the topics. He admits that it is expected that the TUC will adhere to the titles but knows little of what happens in classroom practice. He ignores that part of a question which asks if the courses, which obviously deal with highly controversial topics, are required to be balanced.

Why all the questions? Because it is the taxpayer who funds all these courses. Every year since 1976 the government has given the TUC a handout of nearly £2 million to arrange these courses. The Thatcher administration has spent more than £8 million in the past five years and have decided to spend another couple of million in 1988-89. Not content with spending the taxpayers' money for them on the unions, the government also forces companies to subsidize the TUC-arranged courses by obliging them to grant time off with pay to attend them under the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act of 1978 and various "safety" regulations.

The government payment is made by a direct grant from the Department of Education and Science and the Department of Employment to the TUC. The TUC has an education department at Congress House and regional education offices which prepare the courses in conjunction with further education colleges, colleges of higher education and some polytechnics. In practice all the students are members of trade unions and have to certify as such with their union branch stamp to the regional officers. It is a service for the TUC.

These things, Mr Jackson does know. He also knows and recites impressively the purpose of this handout, which is to improve industrial relations. Mrs Winterton's next question should be whether the government has, at any time in the past five years, bothered to ask for any hard evidence that this gift to the unions has resulted in better industrial relations.

It might just as well have harmed them. Behind the questions, especially those about balance, one detects a concern that courses could be used by, for example, politically motivated tutors, tutors whose selection and appointment may not be purely academic decisions, to engineer not better but worse relations. There have been cases in which tutors have stirred up trouble in industries from which students were seconded, cases in which colleges, reluctant to run such courses have been pressured to do so by their political masters in the local authorities.

In short, if the government is adamant that the taxpayer should subsidize the unions, it has a responsibility to require evidence that his money is being properly spent. It may be that with other courses all should be assumed to be well unless abuses are proved, though I doubt it. But the circumstances with the trade union courses are special. The nature of the topics, plus their being taught under the aegis of local authorities which have shown an enthusiasm for politicization in other fields including education, plus their being arranged by the trade unions which have, shall we say, certain interests in the topic taught, add up to a situation in which bias is a real and likely danger. They also mean that individuals in the colleges who are aware of abuses are frightened to reveal them publicly, being dependent on the institutions which produce them.

In these circumstances, the burden of proof should be not with the critics but with the unions and authorities to show the courses are not biased. Things may improve for the polytechnics, at least, when they are freed from local authority control in 1989.

All this would involve poor Mr Jackson in an awful amount of work and some very long answers. One doubts if his time is best spent on such matters. Why not completely avoid the whole messy business of proving or disproving bias by ending the government funding and government-enforced time off with pay? If the courses are worthwhile to the unions or the employers, let them pay. If they are not, why run them at all? Is it not the view of the White Paper on higher education that users and employers should pay for the educational benefits they receive? Then Mr Jackson could get on with matters which are the proper business of government. Oh, and the £2 million could go to nurse training.

The author is Director of The Social Affairs Unit.

however . . . Pearson Phillips

## Cheap travel, Sartre class

"Are you married?" inquired the woman behind the counter. It was a strange question to be asked in a railway booking office. My friend gave a nervous, apologetic laugh and admitted we were not. Were we about to get some moral rebuke for asking for seats together to Avignon? Surely not: this was France. But worse was to come.

"Is monsieur then perhaps your concubine?" I looked the word up in a dictionary later. My Old Testament image of some feminist superwoman travelling with her ozen and asses, came and concubines was dashed. The word is French for "co-habitee". It can be male or female. And you can get a certificate for it at the town hall.

"Because", added the ticket lady, "on presentation of a Certificate of Concubinage you can pay the fare as a couple, which means one of you travels half price." Pity. This was my introduction to the wonderful world of the French railways fare system. Jean-Louis Card holders (anyone over 60) for whom travelling first class is cheaper than second-class.

How to join in this great existentialist romp? I have inquired about this concubinage business. An English resident friend showed me his official form, bearing the stamp of the mayor, headed "declaration of marital life". He had to go down to the town hall with two witnesses who were prepared to swear that he and his elegant Italian girlfriend were in a state of co-habitation. Some documentary evidence — in their case an electricity bill — was also required.

They took champagne down with them, as well they might. Their form not only allowed them to benefit from cheap rail travel, it allowed them to qualify for all the appropriate marital social security benefits as well.

Think of that. In Britain the snoopers strive to ensure that receivers of benefit are not sharing their beds with anyone. In France all the town hall wants to be sure about is that they are.

grandparents, cousins or even friends to a maximum of four. The cat or the dog travel free, as long as it is the family cat or dog.

The other lot over there are travelling on a "numerous family card", a numerous family being three or more children, one of whom is under 18. That means 30 to 75 per cent off for everyone, including the noble parent.

Yes, we all know about the French wanting to encourage families. But what about that lone young man in the corner, without a child, a wife or even a "matrimonial-fine companion" (50 per cent off)? Never fear. He will have a letter from his boss confirming that he is on annual paid leave (25 per cent reduction for journeys of over 200km). Or perhaps he rounded up five other solitary in the ticket queue and formed a group (20 per cent off).

I now also know why French first-class carriages are full of distinguished men and women of a certain age. They are Vermilion Card holders (anyone over 60) for whom travelling first class is cheaper than second-class.

I have inquired about this concubinage business. An English resident friend showed me his official form, bearing the stamp of the mayor, headed "declaration of marital life". He had to go down to the town hall with two witnesses who were prepared to swear that he and his elegant Italian girlfriend were in a state of co-habitation. Some documentary evidence — in their case an electricity bill — was also required.

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There is a moral in there somewhere. And also in another bit of philosophical realism attached to the certificate. It is renewable every year.





1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

## DEFENDING EUROPE

The US-Soviet agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces which was signed yesterday in Washington removes an issue from the superpower agenda which has, notwithstanding the relatively small number of weapons involved, bedevilled East-West relations for the past decade. The very removal of this issue, however, raises a far wider question, and one the presence of these weapons obscured: the future defence of Western Europe.

Neither of the signatories to the draft INF treaty has any reason on the surface to allow the concerns of European countries to diminish their satisfaction this week. For the West Europeans, the British and West German leaders have given their unqualified blessing to the treaty as it stands. The nature of the Warsaw Pact means that Mr Gorbachev has no need of such support from East European leaders.

Yet, once the treaty has been ratified — assuming it is — and the first missiles to be dismantled under the terms of the treaty are withdrawn from RAF Molesworth in Britain, voices of warnings will be heard. Some of the defensive power and some of the assurance of US protection they provided — to Britain and to other European members of the Western alliance — will go with them.

Whether this amounts to the first stage in a long-term Soviet plan to make all Europe (excluding the USSR) a nuclear-free zone, or whether it is rather a mutually advantageous step which reduces an unnecessary and possibly dangerous accumulation of military hardware in Europe, cannot at present be assessed. It is, however, the responsibility of West European governments to ensure that it does not become the former by default. They must satisfy themselves that progress towards any more "zeros" is fully compatible with the interests of all NATO members.

This means, first, insisting that no further nuclear concessions are made before the imbalance in conventional and chemical weapons has been redressed. Yesterday, Mrs

Thatcher warned, rightly, about bringing shorter-range nuclear weapons in Europe into the same forum as conventional weapons lest the one be bargained against the other.

Second, it means that any US-Soviet agreement to cut strategic-range nuclear weapons — which seems to be the most likely subject of the next accord — must be exactly that: a superpower agreement with no hidden implications for Europe. The British and French independent nuclear deterrents must remain. The Shadow Defence Secretary pointed out yesterday that if Washington and Moscow went ahead with 50 per cent cuts in strategic nuclear weapons, the United States would be left with 12 Trident submarines to the four Britain has ordered. Was it necessary, he asked, for Britain to have one third of the force required by so large and powerful country as the United States?

The answer was, and is, that such strength is all the more necessary at a time when other means of defending Western Europe are being scaled down. If the Western alliance as a whole is not thereby to be weakened, the European pillar of the alliance will have to bear a greater weight than before.

For the interests of Western Europe to be represented convincingly, however, both to the transatlantic part of the alliance and to a strong Soviet leadership, firm leadership is required. Western Europe will need a clear sense of direction and a depth of commitment to the transatlantic pillar of the alliance which its governments have not always shown.

That leadership has, necessarily, to come from within Europe. Over a period when governments in the United States, France and Germany will be in transition, it must also promise continuity and consistency. Mrs Thatcher, with her undoubted commitment to the alliance, her clear concept of nuclear deterrence and the growing role she is playing in the European Community, should make the modernization of European defence her next frontier.

## DEATH OF A CHRISTIAN

"In the Church of England things are not always what they seem to be..." began the author of the Preface to the 1987 *Crockford's Directory*. That caveat should also be applied to the aftermath, the denials, the dignified silences, and, in particular, to the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of the man alleged to be its author.

But while heeding that warning, it would be wrong not to comment further upon the affair. In advance of the inquest on Dr Gareth Bennett, we would draw the Church of England's attention to a few questions which that Church ought now to be asking itself.

They are in three categories. The first concern the substantive points of the Preface. These are already being asked, though — as Mr Frank Field writes in his letter today — not necessarily with the effect which the writer had in mind. Dr Runcie's supporters are in the ascendant. So are his views.

The second category concerns the commissioning of the Preface. These questions are being asked too. But they are not being answered. Those to the most visible of the men responsible, the Secretary-General, Mr W.D. Patinson reveal nothing. Those to others reveal the faded edges of a pattern, but it is a pattern of divided responsibility which must disgrace any responsible institution.

The third set of questions flows directly from the second. Did Dr Bennett write the anonymous Preface? If so, what assurances were given that the Church would respect that anonymity, particularly since his known views made him an obvious suspect? If any assurances were given, were they kept?

This last long list of queries would seem more at home in a sophisticated crime novel. Indeed, of all those in Oxford, it is Dame Iris Murdoch who could perhaps do best justice to the following scenario: the author's betrayal of confidence by his revelation of Church secrets,

the justification of this by a higher cause, "the safety of the Church itself"; then the assurances that the authorship would remain secret, the doubts, the writing of the article, the discovery that no assurances could protect him; finally the denials to the press, leading to deception of his friends, and to suicide.

Two of the leading politicians involved in the Church of England's affairs, Mr Field and Mr John Gummer, warned yesterday of the dangers in the *Crockford's* hunt. It is hard to resist the conclusion that the Church hierarchy has been naive about the dangers of such consequences throughout — even if no one could have foreseen the final awful act.

The Press has inevitably come under attack for hounding a suspect to his death. But it is the Church which has laid the trail. Churchmen at every level of seniority have lavished helpful advice. Much of it was directed towards "identifying" Dr Bennett, who was a wise man but a man whose training had not taught him to deal with the direct questions of very direct reporters.

"Enthusiasm in various shapes returns often on this poor nation: we have had religious enthusiasm, political enthusiasm, and this was mere secular enthusiasm." That was the comment on the South Sea Bubble by one of Dr Bennett's heroes, the 18th Century Bishop of Peterborough, White Kennett. It is the sort of comment which may be applied by today's bishops to the *Crockford's* affair.

While the state of the Church, its beliefs, its archbishops, and its benighted bureaucracy are, indeed, a secular enthusiasm at present, they are much more than that. Dr Bennett was one of a dwindling band of scholars who put a truly Christian mind to the study of European history. His death is a loss to Christianity. It may bring much bigger troubles to the Church of England.

## DRUNK DRIVERS

Yesterday Mr Peter Bottomley began, with customary vigour, the Government's seasonal effort on drinking and driving. He renewed the Department of Transport's campaign of exhortation. He usefully reminded us that it is directed not only at drivers but, as pertinently, at passengers and at all who extend hospitality in their homes and share in responsibility for the sobriety of customers and guests.

Much of the Department's effort is going into television advertisements. Taken together with the AIDS campaign, it will certainly make for an admonitory Christmas. The public expenditure is justified both by the minister's ambition of raising awareness and by the potency of the Transport Department's recent series of television advertisements. These have put into harrowing focus the victims of accidents caused by drunk drivers, among whom bereft relatives are not the least.

Mr Bottomley referred yesterday to the need to "decentralize" the campaign, notably by the participation of the brewers both in promoting the wider message and, in detail, by requiring their publicans to provide drivers with non-alcoholic drink. This is all to the good. The minister is right to identify compliance with the law as the object of the exercise: compliance rests heavily on public acceptance of law enforcement.

Polls and a stream of anecdotal evidence — including the opinions of chief police officers — demonstrate that there is now a tide of public support for stricter enforcement of the existing law. Drivers and non-drivers alike would live happily under a tougher regime, including random breath-testing.

The Government espouses the doctrine of unripe time, saying change in the law will come, but not just yet. Yet delay is not without cost. There are too many drivers on the roads

in no fit state to command their vehicles, and too many accidents for the wait-and-see posture to be right.

It is true that there has been a decrease in the level of drunk driving in recent years: official admonition has had its effect. But the law needs to be sharpened as well. The evidence from home and abroad, collected by Dr Dumber and colleagues in the *British Medical Journal* this week, makes a telling case for a reduction in blood alcohol levels. This needs to be answered, particularly with reference to a reduction in permissible alcohol levels for young and learner drivers.

And with such reform there ought to be, at least experimentally, an extension of police power. It is not enough to say that police have wide powers to require breath tests when they suspect a traffic offence or after an accident. The prospect of confronting a static roadside checkpoint which required all passing drivers to stop would be a powerful deterrent.

At least that proposition is worth putting to the test. We have seen recently in Scotland imaginative use of the broadcasting media to shame those convicted of drink driving offences. There is space within the system to test different modes of policing. Chief constables should have discretion in policing the roads, but, before they can exercise it, they need the power of random testing.

Cynics may observe that such legislative changes will not stop the habitual drinker taking a vehicle on the road, or that random testing is costly of police manpower. But tightening the law would, on present evidence, make the roads safer because it would raise the stakes for drivers. That way lies further advance in the change of attitudes which is slowly taking place.

## New doctrine of judicial power

From Lord Devlin, FBA  
Sir, The opinions of Lord Mackay of Clashfern, as reported by you in "Who makes the law?" (feature, December 3), will, I believe, be read by lawyers and laymen alike with relief as well as with respect. I hope that the principle behind them will be applied to the practice of "prospectively deciding" as well as to that of "prospectively overruling".

By "prospectively deciding" I mean the new doctrine that a decision given against one newspaper applies forthwith against all other newspapers, which must, I suppose, be deemed to have learnt of it by hearsay and to be able to apply it to themselves.

The judicial power is the power to decide cases, not the power to make law. It is true that because of the doctrine of precedent an appellate court, when it gives a decision, is telling the world that future cases which are the same in principle will probably be decided in the same way. Probably, but not certainly, at least since July 26, 1966, when the House of Lords resolved that it would no longer be absolutely bound by its own decisions.

This judicial power is quite different from the legislative power of Parliament to impose legal obligations forthwith on persons who are not before it. The exercise of the judicial power is subject in general to the right to be summoned and heard.

Sincerely,  
DEVILIN,  
West Wick House,  
Pewsey,  
Wiltshire.  
December 6.

## Mozambique aid

From Mrs Ruth Buckley  
Sir, Jillian Becker's article (November 25) fails to point out that much of Britain's aid to Mozambique is of a humanitarian nature.

Humanitarian assistance is necessary not because of Mozambique's economic policy, which incidentally has been liberalized under the economic recovery programme launched in January, 1987, but because of armed banditry and terrorism perpetrated by the MNR (Mozambique National Resistance).

The MNR, rather than being a coherent movement with a political platform, was established by the Rhodesian Central Intelligence Organisation to inform upon Zulu (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) activists in Mozambique during Zimbabwe's war for independence. Following Zimbabwe's independence the MNR were trained in and supported by the South African regime, transforming them into an effective instrument for undermining the legitimate Mozambique government and the Mozambique economy.

MNR bandits who mine fields so that farmers risk life and limb to cultivate; who cut the ears and noses of children captured in raids; who force civilians to produce food for them or to carry their equipment through the bush; who blow up bridges, set fire to homes, schools, health centres and buses, can hardly be considered a coherent movement with a political platform.

Their criminal activities and wanton destruction have devastated thousands of lives and vast areas of countryside, denying the citizens of Mozambique the chance to be self-sufficient.

Yours sincerely,  
RUTH BUCKLEY,  
118 Marlborough Road, N22.  
November 27.

## Patent Office move

From Mr Iain C. Baillie  
Sir, The Government announce that the new Copyright Bill is to encourage UK innovation and enterprise by moving the Patent Office to be moved to Cardiff. My clients from Japan, USA, Australia, etc. are thrilled to learn that though the courts, counsel and the majority of professionals are in London, all of these will have to go to Cardiff for every attendance. My clients in Glasgow, Newcastle and Norwich are also less than pleased.

Why not move the Treasury, Ministry of Defence or even Parliament to Cardiff — it would do less damage to British trading interests. Yours faithfully,  
IAN C. BAILLIE  
(Chartered patent agent),  
High Holborn House,  
52-54 High Holborn, WC1.  
December 2.

## Fire training

From Mr M. J. Doherty  
Sir, Your correspondent, Mr J. H. Goode (December 1), incorrectly implies that the law does not require fire drills to take place in departmental stores.

Section 6, sub-section 2, of the Fire Precautions Act (1971), as amended by the Fire Safety & Safety of Places of Sport Act (1987) requires training in fire safety and fire drills to be conducted at least once every 12 months in departmental stores employing in excess of 20 staff or more than 10 elsewhere other than on the ground floor. Yours faithfully,  
M. J. DOHERTY,  
Deputy Chief Officer,  
London Fire and Civil Defence Authority,  
London Fire Brigade,  
Albert Embankment, SE1.  
December 1.

## Archbishop's colours in context

From Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead (Labour)

Sir, Your extract (December 3) from the preface to *Crockford's Clerical Directory* includes the following sentence: "One recalls a lapidary phrase of Mr. Frank Field that the archbishop is usually to be found sailing his colours to the fence."

The preface did not put this in context. The Synod's record on its debate on the nature of Christian belief in February, 1985, reports me as saying on the Archbishop of Canterbury's contribution that I speak with some considerable affection for him. I thought that his response to the Synod's debate was admirable, but it would not have been an appropriate response had he been reporting back from the deliberations of the House of Bishops (which was to occur after it had considered Synod's debate). It would then be possible to say that he had sailed his colours firmly to the fence.

You report the distress that the preface has caused the Archbishop. One redeeming factor of the whole affair is the coverage his Grace has gained for his views. At one time the Church's importance would have commanded attention. Now, like opposition parties, the hierarchy has to respond to the news made by other people.

The anonymous preface has resulted in a powerful promotion of the Archbishop's liberal values. Yours truly,  
FRANK FIELD,  
House of Commons.  
December 7.

From Dr Richard Carter  
Sir, Thank you for printing so extensively the text of the *Crockford's* preface. The author's exposition of the present state of the Church of England has brought sharply into focus misgivings which I have felt vaguely for some time.

In England, as in America, the laity are generally conservative in their belief. This is particularly true of those who are least articulate. For them it matters that their faith is true, not that it is expedient. They find the pronouncements of the bishops and the debates of the General Synod equally irrelevant. All too often they look in vain to the Church to provide a clear and consistent exposition of the gospel and genuine pastoral concern. Yet this is the edifice for which they are

## ILEA standards

From Mr Eric Ollershaw  
Sir, It might well be opportune, given the publication of the Education Bill, for your readers to note the following information from a meeting of the ILEA schools' sub-committee on November 12. It was contained in a report on the inspection of the standard of science teaching in ILEA schools in Greenwich.

HMI's had inspected lessons in the summer term of 1985 and found the appalling situation that only 15 per cent of classes in science could be called good and 50 per cent were unsatisfactory or worse. Two years later, in the summer term of 1987, the ILEA's own inspectors went into schools in Greenwich to check, one as-

## Future of the NHS

From Mr David Tipping  
Sir, No one can doubt that there is increasing concern over the ability of the health service, as at present financed and constituted, to provide the level and quality of service that is desired. Where I feel the present Government has failed is in offering a clear and consistent answer as to what should be included and what not, coupled with a firm commitment to provide adequate resources for the accepted targets.

It is not enough to be told that more money than ever before is being channelled into health. It would be strange if it were not. How does one decide whether it is enough? Are present difficulties due to inadequate funds or to poor management of available funds? On what principles is it decided that resources be allocated to this or that activity or branch of the service, and who decides?

The overriding question for the longer term is to decide the content of a publicly-financed service and the principles according to which the line is drawn between public and private provision.

I believe that the best way to do it is by royal commission. The usual argument against royal

## Poll tax freedom

From Professor R. C. Simmons  
Sir, I believe that Adam Smith is highly regarded by several members of the present Government and/or their advisers. Have they read him on the poll tax? Such taxes, he commented, in countries where the ease, comfort, and security of the inferior ranks of people are little attended to... are very common. It is in general, however, but a small part of the public revenue which, in a great empire, has ever been drawn from such taxes; and the greatest sum which they have ever afforded, might always have been found in some other way much more convenient to the people.

It was, in fact, in Smith's day seen as a mark of the distinctive freedom of Britons that, unlike the unfortunate subjects of arbitrary or absolute governments, they were not so taxed. Sir, trans... etc.

Yours etc.  
R. C. SIMMONS,  
6 Britannia Square,  
Worcester.  
November 30.

## Newcastle reply to criticisms

From the Leader of Newcastle City Council

Sir, We benighted provincials must, I suppose, be grateful to be singled out for mention by such luminaries as Simon Jenkins (article, December 3) and the Prince of Wales (report, December 2) even when we find it difficult to recognise in their dismissive phrases the cities in which we live and work. Thus Newcastle has not been "pattern-bombed with glass and concrete" (Simon Jenkins), nor has it been "raped" by motorways.

The redevelopment of the 1960s and 1970s was essential to avoid the choking to death of the city by traffic and the draining to the periphery of its retailing and commercial lifeblood, reproducing the symptoms of inner urban decay suffered in the United States and elsewhere.

Of course there were some undistinguished buildings constructed, and some, though not many, valuable buildings lost. But the essential character of the city and its rich built heritage have been preserved. It remains probably the most attractive of the provincial cities and the £8 million currently being spent on refurbishing the magnificent Theatre Royal is an earnest of its intention to remain so.

Yours truly,  
JEREMY BEECHAM, Leader,  
Newcastle City Council,  
Civic Centre,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
Tyne and Wear.

## ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 9 1933

Bernadette Soubirous (1844-79) was the first vision of the Virgin Mary on February 11, 1858. At the age of 30 she became a nun at Nevers, where she nursed the wounded during the Franco-Prussian war.

## THE VISIONARY OF LOURDES

CANONIZATION IN ROME

THOUSANDS OF PILGRIMS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

With all the traditional solemnity, the Blessed Bernadette Soubirous, the shepherdess and visionary of Lourdes, was canonized today.

The ceremony drew a vast concourse of the faithful to St. Peter's. During the last two or three days special trains have brought more than 20 Bishops and thousands of pilgrims from abroad, daily, of course, from France, but these foreign visitors were added many thousands of Italians.

The comparatively recent death of Bernadette Soubirous — she died at Nevers in 1879 — gave to to-day's ceremony a vivid and a living touch which is absent from many canonizations. Although the brother of the new Saint, who had been present at his sister's beatification in 1925, has since died, there were present this morning more than a score of representatives of her family... Among those present who had obtained relief from their sufferings at Lourdes was the vigorous and active Mgr. Lemaître, Archbishop of Carthage, one of the two people whose miraculous cure from an especially fatal illness formed a principal basis for this morning's ceremony.

The miracle which healed Mgr. Lemaître of a tropical disease on August 3, 1925, almost immediately after the beatification of Bernadette Soubirous, was depicted on one of the two painted standards which, in accordance with custom, descended from the loggia overlooking the statues of St. Veronica and St. Helena.

The interior of St. Peter's had been decorated with all the sumptuous splendour proper to such an occasion. More than 13,000 electric candles, distributed among hundreds of candelabra and brackets, combined with the brilliant illuminations to bathe the whole basilica in a sea of light.

From 9 o'clock, when the Pope was borne into the basilica on the sedia gestatoria amid the dignitaries of the Church and of the Papal Court in gala uniform, to the moment, four hours later, when his Holiness was again borne out of the church, the solemn function followed its prescribed course. Litanies and hymns and prayers succeeded one another until the Pope, accepting the triple petition of the Cardinal Protonotary, made *Instantur, Instantius, Instantissime*, invited the Princes of the Church and other prelates to rise to their feet while he pronounced the formula of canonization. A few minutes later the "Gloria" of the new Saint, which had been hung from the outer loggia of the basilica, was uncovered and the pealing of the bells announced *Urbi et Orbi* that the humble shepherdess of Lourdes had taken her place amid the most venerated names of the Roman Catholic Church.

Before concluding the ceremony the Pope announced that the "feast" of the new Saint would be April 16, the day of her death.

## High frequency

From Dr K. C. Bass  
Sir, Your extract from *The Times* for December 2, 1924 ("On This Day"), entitled *The City Railway* (the precursor of the Northern Line), states that

The (new) service to be opened on the line will consist of 26 trains an hour in each direction between Clapham Common and Camden Town.

How times (of trains) have changed.

Yours faithfully,  
K. C. BASS,  
City University,  
Department of Chemistry,  
Northampton Square, EC1.  
December 2.

## Far-flung corners

From Mrs Allison Taylor  
Sir, Mr Geoffrey Phillips (November 30) draws our attention to the Post Office's confusion over the extent of Europe. I, too, am puzzled as various new definitions of this continent now seem to be acceptable, notably as a synonym for the EEC which excludes Switzerland and many other countries.

Britain is also often excluded, a view borne out by the American who asked directions from my (Scottish) husband at Zurich Airport. After receiving the required information, he asked if my husband was European. On hearing that he was, the reply came: "Gee, for a European you sure speak good English".

Yours faithfully,  
ALLISON TAYLOR,  
Feldgasse 12,  
9500 Wil, Switzerland.  
December 2.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
December 8: The Queen held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Her Majesty received His All Highness the Countess of Arundel, Duchess of Arundel.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia were present.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attended the ceremony at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, gave a reception this evening for Friends of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Buckingham Palace.

The Prince Edward, Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Project, 37, this evening attended a dinner given by the Chatham Dining Club at the St Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, London SW1.

Captain James Fraser was in attendance.

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE  
December 8: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, a Master of the Middle Temple, was pleased to dine with her new Benchers at the Middle Temple this evening.

The Dowager Viscountess Hambleden and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

Lady Elizabeth Basset has succeeded Lady Angela Oswald as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE  
December 8: The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr Humphrey Mews, arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight this morning from Italy.

His Royal Highness, President, the Royal Jubilee Trust, chaired a meeting of the Administrative Council at Kensington Palace.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court Exhibition Centre.

Mr David Landale was in attendance.

His Royal Highness later received Mr Andrew Collier and Miss Paula Finnerty at Kensington Palace and presented the 1986 and 1987 The Prince of Wales Award for the Rural Crafts and Skills Competition held at the East of England Show.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, this evening gave a reception for supporters of the Trust in the State Apartments, Kensington Palace.

December 8: The Duke of Gloucester today presented the Brighton Up London Awards at The Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

Deputy-Lieutenant Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
December 8: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this afternoon attended the Annual Christmas Party of the "Not Forgotten" Association at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace.

Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE  
December 8: Princess Alexandra this afternoon launched MV Isle of Mull, the new vessel for Caledonian MacBray Ltd, at the shipyard of Appleby Ferguson Shipbuilders Ltd, Port Glasgow, Renfrewshire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

A memorial service for Sir John Colville will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, on Thursday, January 21, at noon.

### Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Milton, London, 1608; Karl Wilhelm Scheele, chemist, discoverer of oxygen, Stralsund, Germany, 1742.

DEATHS: Sir Anthony van Dyke, painter, London, 1641; Dame Edith Sitwell, London, 1904; Karl Barth, theologian, Basel, 1968; Ralph Bunche, diplomat, Nobel Peace laureate, 1950, New York, 1971.

### Appointments

Latest appointments include: Colonel Douglas McCord, who recently retired from the Army, to be curator of Hatfield House. Mr J.L.F. Doolan, housemaster at Ridley College, to be Principal of Elizabeth College, Guernsey, on the retirement of Mr R.A. Wheaton in August 1988.

### Today's royal engagements

The Queen attends dinner given by officers of The Royal Regiment at Vintners' Hall at 8, to mark seventeenth anniversary of Battle of Culloden.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court at 11.15.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, presents tenth annual awards of Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts at Victoria and Albert Museum at 6.15.

The Duke of Gloucester opens A

### Birthdays today

Miss Joan Armistead, singer, 37; Mr Billy Bremner, footballer, 45; Sir Stanley Brown, former chairman, CEBG, 77; Sir John Leach, former director general, British Council, 62; Miss Judi Dench, actress, 53; Mr Kirk Douglas, actor, 71; Mr Douglas Fairbanks, jr, actor, 78; Mr Benny Green, musician, writer and broadcaster, 60; Mr F.G. Hankins, chairman, Fiat, 66; Mr Robert Hawke, Prime Minister of Australia, 58; Dr Lionel Kopelovitz, president, Board of Deputies of British Jews, 61; Mr Justice Auld, 57; Lord Morris, 50; Sir Geoffrey Nicholson, former MP, 86; Miss Isobel Poole, Sheriff of the Lothian and Borders at Edinburgh, 46; Lord Rees, QC, 61; Miss Elizabeth Schwarzkopf, opera singer, 72; Sir Peter Smithers, former MP, 74; Miss Rita Stephen, trade unionist, 62.

G Leventis Gallery of Cypriot Antiquities at British Museum at 6.20.

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman of British Overseas Trade Board, visits J. H. Fenner, Marlet, near Hull, at 11.30; Afco, Hull, at 2; and Halesworth Sports Centre, Hull, at 2.50. He attends Hull Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping's 150th anniversary dinner at Guildhall, Hull, at 6.30.

The Duchess of Kent opens "CT Whole Body Scanner" at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, at 11.45; and as patron, visits Samaritans Headquarters in Inverness at 2.45.

The Duke of Gloucester opens A



Miss Jill Morrell petitioning the Iranian Embassy yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

## Appeal on captive journalist

The woman friend of a British hostage in Lebanon yesterday appealed in a letter to the Prime Minister to adopt a "more flexible, pragmatic" response to the plight of British kidnap victims held in Beirut.

The letter was delivered by Miss Jill Morrell, whose colleague and friend, Mr John McCarthy, aged 32, has been in captivity for 600 days. Miss Morrell also visited the Iranian Embassy in London where

she presented a petition signed by 2,000 journalists calling for Tehran to work for his release.

In her letter to Mrs Thatcher, Miss Morrell wrote: "We appeal to you to increase your efforts to obtain John's release... A policy of non-negotiation with terrorists should not preclude dialogue and contact with these parties who could help influence the people holding John."

She added that seven foreign hostages had been released in the 20 months since Mr McCarthy's abduction, none of them British.

Nothing has been heard of Mr McCarthy, the acting Beirut bureau chief of World-wide Television News, since he was seized by gunmen on April 17, 1986, apparently in retaliation for British support of the US bombing raid against Libya.

She said that seven foreign hostages had been released in the 20 months since Mr McCarthy's abduction, none of them British.

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## OBITUARY

### WING CDR MIKE CROSSLEY

High-scoring wartime fighter ace

Wing Commander Mike Crossley, OBE, DSO, DFC, who died at his home in White River, in the Transvaal, on December 7, at the age of 75, was a high-scoring fighter pilot who made his name in the desperate air battles which raged over Dunkirk in June 1940, and then commanded the famous 32 Squadron at Biggin Hill during the Battle of Britain.

Michael Nicholson Crossley was at Eton and then went to the College of Aeronautical Engineering, before joining the RAF in 1936. He was posted to 32 Squadron, then flying Gauntlet biplane fighters.

In 1938, the squadron received Hurricanes, and was fully operational with the new fighter at the outbreak of war. Nicholson was by this time a flight commander, and when the Germans invaded France in May, 1940, he led Red Flight in sorties across the Channel, strafing enemy aircraft on the ground, and taking on the waves of German bombers which harried the British Army's retreat.

Much to his chagrin his first opportunity to shoot down an enemy aircraft came to nothing, when, with a Heinkel He 111 in his sights he realized too late that he had forgotten to cock his guns.

He soon made rich amends, and by the end of the week had claimed four Messerschmitt Me 109s. In the fierce struggle in the skies over the Dunkirk beaches he continued to do fearsome execution on a numerically superior enemy, and got his DFC before June was out.

Before the Battle of Britain even began he had shot down nine aircraft and had a half share in another. This was a remarkable performance in a period of non-stop, and nerve-racking air combat. For his leadership of his flight and for his personal courage Crossley was known throughout the Air Force as the "Red Knight".

When the Battle proper began in August, he took command of No 32, and from its legendary Biggin Hill base the squadron began to create a formidable reputation for itself. It liked to style itself the "32nd Pursuit", a nickname reflecting its aggressive attitude to the enemy. This was no mere vaingloriousness; 32 Squadron was the first in the RAF to shoot down 100 German aircraft during the Battle.

Crossley continued to add to his tally, shooting down three aircraft in a day, on no less than three occasions. He was also shot down himself, but was unhurt, and lost no time getting back into the thick of things.

By the time 32 Squadron was pulled out of the Battle for a well-earned rest, at the end of August, Crossley had a score of 22 combat victories, and got his DSO for his inspiring leadership.

When the RAF went onto the offensive with its fighter sweeps in 1941, Crossley commanded a Spitfire Wing, but did not add to his tally.

Later that year he was posted to the United States as a British Air Commission Test Pilot.

Crossley was a no-nonsense, workmanlike air warrior who, without affectation or dash, saw it as his task simply to plunge into battle whenever the opportunity offered.

He was also a fine musician, particularly effective on the double-bass. Under his leadership a squadron band was formed, and the parties that No 32 held to let their hair down between air battles, were graced by music of a more exalted level than is often heard on these occasions.

In the 1950s he went to live in South Africa, and leaves his widow, Moyra, and a son and two daughters by a previous marriage.

## DR G. V. BENNETT

Dr G. V. Bennett, who was found dead at his home in Oxford on December 7, at the age of 58, was a brilliant church historian in a world of his own. He was a member of his minister, Norman Sykes, late Dean of Winchester. He was, since 1960, lecturer in history at Oxford University.

Garth Vaughan Bennett was born in November 1929, and educated at The Royal Grammar School, Guildford; Southend High School; and at Christ's College, Cambridge. He studied divinity at King's College, London, from 1954 to 1959 — as had Sykes three decades earlier.

Bennett was, for a number of years, Sykes's research student. It was a fruitful apprenticeship during which the master initiated his young charge into the historian's craft, and instilled in him rigorous standards of scholarship.

Bennett was ordained in 1956 to a curacy at Frintwell, Essex, where he served until 1959. In the year after his ordination, meanwhile, he published *White Kennet*, 1660-1728, Bishop of Peterborough — the first full length biography of that prelate since 1730.

But Bennett was not destined to remain in the parishes. After his curacy he went to Oxford as Fellow, Dean of Divinity, and Tutor at New College — which remained his academic home for the rest of his life. Nevertheless, he served a ministry of counsel to many of the students and celebrated regularly in the college chapel.

His own churchmanship was Anglo-Catholic in flavour, yet flexible when needed. He was active in the highest levels of church affairs, notably as a member of the Crown Appointments Commission, which is responsible for senior church appointments. He was an elected member of the General Synod's standing committee as well as a member of its "inner cabinet" policy committee. He represented also the university on the synod, was examining chaplain to the Bishop of London, and a canon and prebendary of Chichester Cathedral.

In 1976 he published *The Tory Crisis: Church and State 1688-1730*, a chronicle of the career of Francis Atterbury, Bishop of Rochester. It was learned, lucid and elegant, illustrating its author's firm grasp of the complexities of both ecclesiastical and secular politics.

Bennett was widely suspected of being the author of the anonymous preface to this year's *Crockford's Clerical Directory*, in which the Archbishop of Canterbury was outspokenly attacked. He categorically denied it on a number of occasions, and was known to have been extremely distressed by the suggestion.

Gary Bennett was an intellectually and theologically tough Christian, yet also a man of gentle spirituality. In a letter to *The Times* following Sykes's death, in 1961, Bennett wrote that "his passing will be mourned by a host of younger scholars whose friend and mentor he was" — a not unflattering epitaph for Bennett himself.

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And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and they threw them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them.

St. Matthew 15:30

**BIRTHS**

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## THE ARTS

## Present laughter is no joke

Trumphet by protest, *Spitting Image* (ITV) made fun on Sunday of one of our better-known spiritual leaders, Mr James Anderson. (Apparently, it is more acceptable to show a policeman as a man of God than God as a policeman — and a puppet one to boot).

Last night, without it seems the publicity benefits of present outrage, Jim Davidson in the *Jim Davidson Comedy Package* (ITV), made fun of another spiritual leader. Indian food, he told us with enlightened delicacy, does not only burn the mouth — which is why Gandhi wore a nappy. This poking of fun at for-

## TELEVISION

elgers was continued with the joke about the Chinese waiter.

This tale of two shows is not, however, just another curious inconsistency in our approach to television. (As also shown by Mrs Thatcher's witty suggestion that snooker be banned from the screen, not because of the players' lethal intake of fags and booze but because of their legally prescribed beta-blockers). It also demonstrates that what can often go wrong beyond the self-conscious flapping of the fringe is light entertainment.

"Alternative" comedy may create a fine by seeking to change things but its effect is often less significant — and perhaps less sinister — than the ability of mainstream culture to absorb threats to its values.

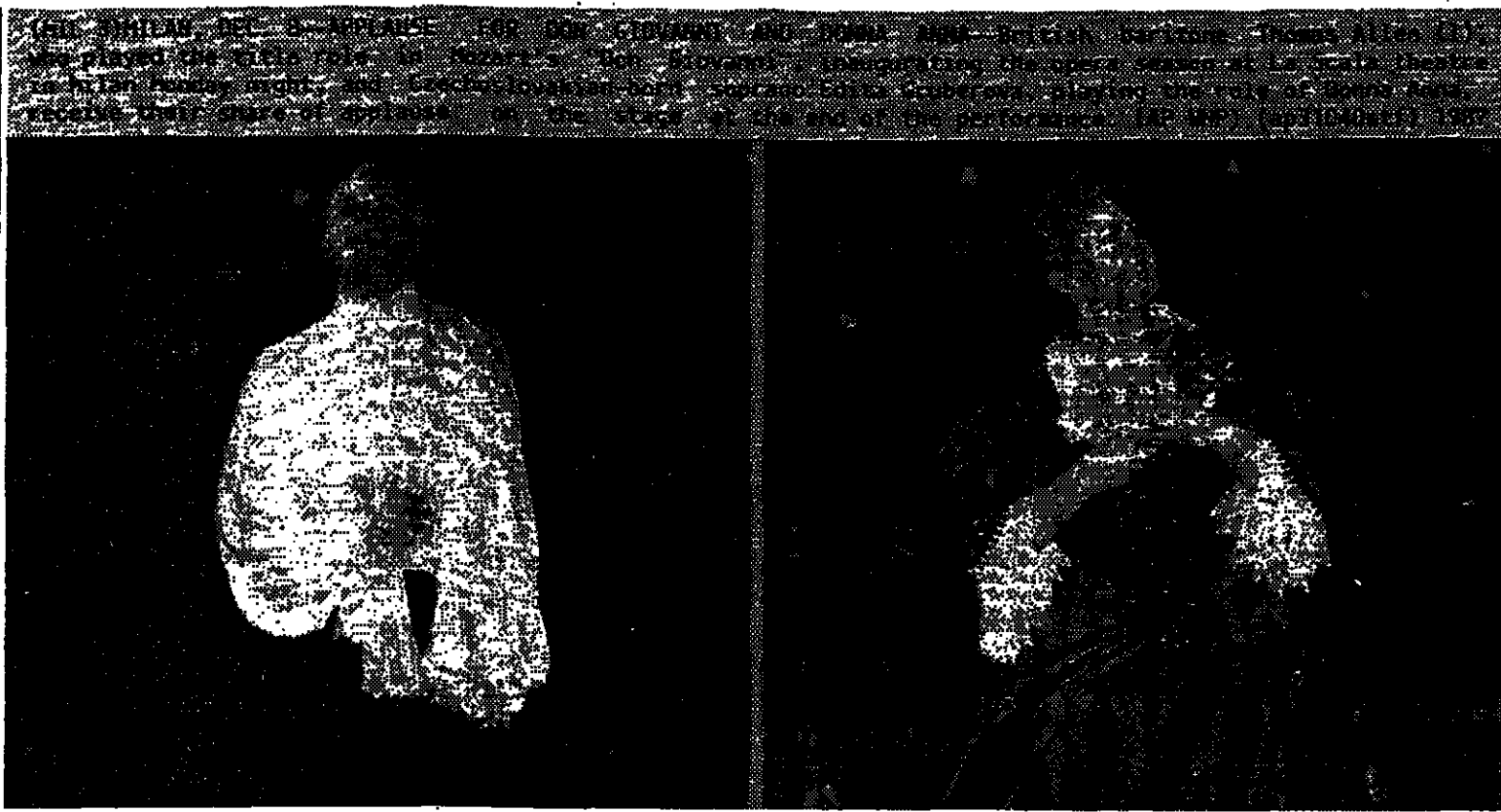
The talented Mr Davidson's technique was to disarm criticism by starting off the programme by saying that he was not going to make jokes against foreigners (he listed them at length). He then said good night and started again. Next he dealt with the danger of his image being tarnished by tabloid exposés by making jokes about his drinking and driving offences and his womanizing.

As though in mocking confirmation of the more enduring strengths of the mainstream, Davidson ended his show by rolling on Des O'Connor who declared he would try some alternative comedy. Out came a real old chestnut of a joke whose punchline Jim stole. Then there was an alternative but for the oldest joke of them all — Des sang.

Andrew Hislop

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## A night to remember

English opera star Thomas Allen scored a triumph in the title role of *Don Giovanni* at the opening of La Scala in Milan. Nigel Jamieson was there to record a fine performance

The first night of La Scala season always suffers from excessive advance publicity, and this year it has been even worse than usual. For the past month every Italian newspaper and magazine has been bursting with articles about every aspect of the new *Don Giovanni*: the critics have been predicting that it would be the opera production of the century, and tickets were finally changing hands for over £1,000 each.

Thomas Allen, at least, did not disappoint expectations in his Scala debut. He threw himself into the title role just as his Giovanni throws himself into every exploit — completely and without reserve. It is a fascinating interpretation, the key to which he does everything — whether seducing, laughing, cursing or defying, he has a simple sincerity that gives him an air of almost childlike innocence: he seems about as morally responsible as a baby throwing a tantrum. The Englishman was in superb voice, his shading of every word a miracle of vocal acting and his mezza voce more mellifluous than ever.

From the dark menace of the opening chords until the hollow brightness of the finale, Riccardo Muti brilliantly brought out the crucial contrast of light and darkness that runs through the score. It was a

performance full of extremes of tempo and dynamics which rarely seemed exaggerated, so closely were they bound to the drama — intimate and reflective passages sometimes moved so slowly that in lesser hands they would have been in danger of grinding to a halt, but the colour and intensity Muti drew from his orchestra always sustained them and compelled attention. Their recitatives, vividly accompanied by forte piano, were also tinged over — to the point that they had the pace of dialogue in a play instead of being rattled through to get to the next aria. That this was a great gain is a tribute to the intelligence and clarity with which every member of the cast delivered the text.

Francisco Araiza was an excellent Ottavio — his inverted bearing and propensity to sing (beautifully) as quietly as possible, whenever possible, implied that this hesitant aristocrat is more a dreamer than a wimp. He did, however, summon the necessary martial ardour for his immaculately articulated "Mi mio tesoro".

The casting of Edita Gruberová as

his treasure was more problematic; her fame is based on her ability to sing florid music to brilliant expressive effect, but the actual timbre of her voice is unremarkable and lacks natural colour. In the early scene she struggled in vain to make much impression, especially when competing with Muti's rich, dark textures in the pit. She came into her own in the sextet and triumphed at the end of "Non mi dir", but it is a strange Donna Anna who is most memorable for her virtuosic execution of the infamous coloratura.

Ann Murray was an Elvira who forced us to take her plight more seriously than usual. Her actions were all directed at reclaiming Giovanni for herself, never at merely spoiling his fun. "Ah! Ti ritrovo ancor", when she finds him flustering Donna Anna, was filled with genuine disappointment rather than anger. Murray sang and acted with such conviction that one could often forget that the part is really too high for her.

The young American Susanne Mentzer was an attractive Zerlina,

although she used her bright, ample soprano more interestingly in ensembles than in her arias. Sergei Koptchak's cavernous and far from marmoreal tones resounded from beyond the grave.

Leporello was marvellously acted by Claudio Desderi as the willing accomplice — so willing that he makes peace with his master even before being bribed — who reveals in Giovanni's adventures but is also filled with remorse at the consequences; the acuteness of his conscience emphasizes the fact that his master does not have one. Desderi's voice, short on both range and resonance, did not pass the Scala test and he was volubly booed at his curtain call.

Giorgio Strehler must be given much credit for his direction of the individual characters, especially Allen's Giovanni, but he fails to provide a coherent style for the production as a whole.

Ezio Frigerio's set settings are very handsome — Italianate and a long way from Seville — but his decision to narrow the Scala stage with permanent neo-Classical columns creates the impression that we experience the opera in quotation marks, which is at odds with the directness of the acting.

The production of the century would surely need all the components to be of the calibre of Allen and Muti.

## Why this Barber is a cut above

John Higgins previews Channel 4's *Barber of Seville*

At the start of the Seventies, Claudio Abbado gathered around him at La Scala a remarkable team of Rossini singers. Berganza was the mezzo heroine, Alva the tenor, while Enzo Dara and Paolo Montarsolo shared the buffo roles. Jean Pierre Ponnelle was appointed controller of comedy.

There is a chance to catch an example of that teamwork in tonight's television transmission of Unital's *The Barber of Seville* (Channel 4, 9pm) which may date back to 1972 but happens to be one of the

best films of comic opera ever made.

Ponnelle's guiding hand is ever visible from breaking of dawn in Seville during the opening scene, where the buildings gradually take on their sharp white shapes, to the detail of the Spanish costumes.

Ponnelle may occasionally go over the top — Bartolo's tiresome servant Ambrogio gives one yawn too many, so inducing the same in us — but

he captures character and he captures visual style in a way few Barber directors succeed in doing — vide Jonathan Miller at the Coliseum.

Hermann Prey's Figaro slides off his rooftop hammock, just as he did in the 1968 Salzburg *Barbiere* where the whole Abbado Rossini cycle could be said to have started, to get down to business in "Largo al factotum".

It is an extrovert, energetic performance among the lei-

stured upper middle classes, led by Luigi Alva's Almaviva, white teeth flashing and full of the flame of love — he does though look a bit like Desmond Lynam when he adds a black moustache under a white wig as the disguised doctor.

Enzo Dara's bloodhound features, which can be seen in Covent Garden's revival of *L'elisir d'amore* later this week, turn Bartolo into an old dog with quite a lot of bark left

in him, especially when it comes to articulating Rossini's patter ensembles.

But the glory of the cast remains Teresa Berganza's Rosina with saucer eyes and smoky timbre in the voice to suggest that she could turn all the males of Seville around her little left finger.

The sound quality of the tape I heard did not always do justice to the Scala Orchestra under Abbado, but that may well have been corrected by the time of tonight's transmission. The year 1972 was a great vintage in Milan: have the video at the ready.

## Hail and farewell

## CONCERTS

Adriana Lecouvreur  
Barbican/Radio 3

Poisoned violets is the killer-weapon are but the ultimate ingredient in the heady concoction of *Adriana Lecouvreur*, for which an international cast was assembled in what seemed the Quixotic venture of a single concert performance.

Cilea's opera of 1902 clings to the fringes of theatre repertory elsewhere but has never taken root in Britain, where a Neapolitan company at the 1963 Edinburgh Festival last brought a major production of it.

Like others of its kind the content is romantic fiction twisted from historical fact, Lecouvreur having been a famous French actress who died young in 1730. Cilea gives his heroine a passage from Racine to declaim as well as a couple of fine tunes to sing (one of which is plugged at every emotional climax) and soprano adores it for the chance of voicing every kind of emotion within a

musical range that makes few extravagant demands on technique.

Even anchored to her platform place here, Natalia Troitskaya, a spray of violets pinned to her dress, visibly lived the character for us, and sang with generous warmth of feeling that missed only the vulnerability at the heart of it. Her murderous rival, the Princess de Bouillon, brought the British debut of Cleopatra Cincra with piercing tone and forthright venom, and best of all was the return of Giacomo Aragall in lyrical ardour as the wayward object of the women's affections.

Another newcomer was the Chilean conductor Maximilian Valdes, who spent most of the first two acts worrying the English Chamber Orchestra through unfamiliar territory, and only began to generate some necessary musical tension with the first confrontation of the rival women. Thereafter he kept a competent course, though in a half-filled hall the balance of orchestra and voices, including the London Oriana Choir, had some strange effects, and little case was made for a theatre revival.

Noël Goodwin

Philharmonia/  
Sinopoli  
Festival Hall

If the South Bank is really to have a bolder, brighter future, evenings such as this, which came as close to cultural enlightenment or good entertainment as an ice-cream down the neck, will have to go.

A 12-minute delay in starting was the first misstep ("London traffic" was blamed perhaps eminent musicians expect to be transported to their workplace on wings of song). Then came a performance of Mendelssohn's *Viola Concerto* by a young Japanese player, Mariko Senja, who should surely have been making her London debut in less exalted circumstances.

She displayed sweet tone and a flexible approach, however much as Giuseppe Sinopoli's torpid grasp of the orchestral accompaniment allowed flexibility. But her musical personality is simply not yet big

enough, and there was some markedly erratic intonation.

Bruckner's Fifth Symphony is not a work to perform if one has no strong convictions about why it exists, in all its bulk, and how it works. Sinopoli's approach seemed happiest in passages where the Philharmonia could show its sumptuous mettle: the strings in the Adagio's great second subject, or the distinguished trumpet section blazing into the finale's home straight.

Vast tracts of the outer movements seemed to exist only from moment to moment, with few long-term implications made explicit. Nor was the playing always polished.

Rehearsal time is stretched very thinly over a work of this length, of course, and that showed in some tentative string playing, during the finale's fugue, in the transition of the horn chorale, and in some competitive ensemble in the Scherzo. Here the players seemed surprised by some of Sinopoli's tempo choices.

Richard Morrison

Electrification  
of the Soviet  
Union  
QEH

There was the suspicion, after the early performances of Nigel Osborne's opera in October, that Peter Sellars's highly agitated production was getting in the way of the words and the music.

Monday night's simplified staging, without the white walls of the set, caring about, though still with a good deal of hysteria in the movement of the characters, was a chance to come a little nearer the piece.

It was still impossible to hear much of Craig Raine's libretto, which would not

matter if one did not feel, both in the bluesy strophic songs and in the dramatic dialogue, that immediate comprehension is intended and necessary.

The tone is, after all, and despite the evident artifice of the verse, realistic: the music does not seem to want to dissolve the words; its main intention is rather to keep up an accompanying orchestral stream of feverish excitement.

The characters certainly come to life, though, in the vivid performances of this cast, led by Omar Ebrahim as the dazed but strong-voiced young poet, Elizabeth Laurence as the febrile governess and Anna Steiger as the generously lyrical prostitute.

Paul Griffiths

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## Ringing a bell or two

## THEATRE

Bells Are Ringing  
Greenwich

The songs in this old Jule Styne musical have been around for 30 years, first climbing the hit parade in the days when Elvis was young. One of the dance routines is even a cha-cha-cha: with idiot lyrics that add nothing at all to the reputation of the lyricists, Adolph Green and Betty Comden.

But for every 10 people who can identify the songs as belonging to this musical, hundreds can hear and possibly sing snatches of *Long Before I Knew You* where here and heroine celebrate their meeting, and *Just in Time* where they remind each other how lucky they have been, and *The Party's Over* where, well, it's time to call it a day.



Lesley Mackie in *Bells*  
The lyrics of *Just in Time* are elegantly simple, conjuring up a jolly-trader emotion that marries wit and feeling charmingly together: "I was lost, the losing dice were tossed, my

bridges all were crossed," Comden and Green at the peak.

There are other gems too, like the absurd hymn to Salzburg-by-the-sea, a *marche des nations* performed with eye-rolling panache by Petra Szikszid and John Levitt: "Salzburg old where the flying fishes play".

The story is about Ella, who works for an answering service and tries to help out the lives of the clients.

In John Doyle's production Lesley Mackie plays her as a demure lass with shy smile and a gulp in the throat, but only seldom does she find in the character what presumably Judy Holliday found, something that made you care about her love life.

The task is not made easier by giving her a love object (Ray Lomax) about whom it is hard to estimate.

Jeremy Kingston

## Prescription for survival

## ROCK

The Cure  
Wembley Arena

The great strength of The Cure is that, under Robert Smith's tutelage, the group has been able to develop in an atrocious-like fashion to take account of and indeed influence external developments over a 10-year period, without sacrificing its own distinctive identity.

Thus, at a time when Pink Floyd is doing big business in America, and the Sisters of Mercy have returned to the fray, Smith and his cohorts are to be found playing the gothic card for all it is worth, with a

long set that incorporated much of the material from this year's sub-psychotic work-out, *Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me*.

The apogee of the approach came with a dramatic rendition of "The Snake Pit", which commenced with a slow, sinuous, mantra-like riff, redolent, say, of "Set The Controls For The Heart Of The Sun".

A striking collage of circling pink and blue lights pierced the rolling banks of dry ice which enveloped the six static musicians, all dressed in oversized white shirts and sporting a variety of hairstyles based on a "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" theme.

The group's weakness is a tendency to indulge in each

musical contemplation of its navel to a point slightly beyond that which marks a comfortable attention span for the listener; 10 "encores" lasting a total of 45 minutes was going it a bit, even if they finally did play "Killing An Arab", the remarkable single which launched them as contenders on the art-rock wing of the new wave in 1978.

Other singles, including the hits "Why Can't I Be You" and "The Love Cats", struck a lighter, more upbeat note, though without impinging on the precise, doomy sense of mission conveyed both by the wondrously imaginative lighting and the knowing, insular performance overall.

David Sinclair

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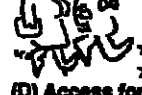






# THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



**BOOKING KEY**  
 \* Seats available  
 \* Returns only  
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## THEATRE LONDON

**\* BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:** Dame Edna Everage back again joshing the possums. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Tube: Charing Cross or Holborn. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm. Sat 8-11pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.30pm, 55-50-21.50.

**\* BELLS ARE RINGING:** Lesley Mackie in Julie Stynes's tune-packed telephone musical. Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (01-838 7755). Station: Greenwich (15 mins from Charing Cross). Mon-Sat 7.40pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, 25-10.

**\* BRESLA SAN PHILIPS:** Kelly Hunter and Simon Coward in a programme of Jacques Brel songs, sharp and tender. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street WC2 (01-240 8200). Tube: Leicester Square/Covent Garden. Preview tonight 8-10pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 8-9pm & 8.45-10.45pm, 65-21.50.

**\* THE CAPE ORCHARD:** A South African folk looking at the next hundred years; performed by Foco No. 1. Venue: Studio 66, The Cut SE1 (01-828 8583). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm, 25.

**\* SPECULATORS:** The RSC's answer to *Servant of the class* and *Shakespeare's class*. The P.B. Barbican Centre EC1 (01-638 8881). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Preview from tonight until Dec 14, first night Dec 15, 7.30-10.15pm. Then in repertory, 27-50.

**\* STURDY BEGGARS:** The Medieval Players finish their autumn tour with a week in London: juggling, tumbling, stilt-walking, clowning and more. John Play Theatre, 17 Duke Road WC1 (01-587 0031). Tube: Euston. Mon-Sat 8-10.20pm, 25.

**\* THE TRAVELLER:** David Threlfall plays a composer fighting his way back to speech after a stroke. Leicester Haymarket production, over-the-hill but theatrically gripping. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street N1 (01-262 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Preview tonight 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 8-10pm, 24-27. (D)

**\* A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE:** Michael Gambon magnificent in transfer of Alan Ayckbourn's NT production. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 5404). Tube: Charing Cross/Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 7.30-8.40pm, Sat 8.30-10.40pm, mat Sat 5-7.10pm, 25-14.50.

**\* WINNIE THE POOH:** The bear of little brain plus curiosity, hopping and bumblebee friends. Purcell Street, off Kingsway WC2 (01-831 0560). Tube: Holborn. Mon-Fri 10.30am or 2pm/12.30pm/5.30pm, adults 25-11, Children 27-50.25. Not recommended for under-fives.

## FILMS

**\* Also on national release**  
**AS ADVANCE booking possible**  
**\* ARIA (18):** A mind-bag of directors put visuals to ten operatic bon-bons from RCA's record catalogue. Directors include Jean-Luc Godard, Robert Altman, Nicolas Roeg, Ken Russell and Derek Jarman (90 min). 21 Lumière (01-838 0881). Progs 1.10, 3.05, 5.05, 7.05, 9.10. (D)

**\* CRY FREEDOM (PG):** Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and sentimentalism, with Kevin Kilgus as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Stephen Biko (Daniel Washington) (158 min). Empire Leicester Square (01-487 1294). Progs 2.00, 5.30, 8.30.

**\* DIRTY DANCING (R):** Flimsy but energetic coming-of-age saga, with Jennifer Grey as the headstrong girl losing her innocence at a Borscht Belt resort. With Patrick Swayze and Jerry Orbach. Directed by Emile Ardolino (86 min). Cannon Baker Street (01-836 9772). Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30. (D)

**\* Cannon Panten Street (01-830 0831). Progs 2.30, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45.**

**\* HOPE AND GLORY (15):** John Boorman's autobiographical account of an ordinary family living through the Second World War. The London Film. Vivid, anecdotal, with Sebastian Rice-Edwards and Sammi Davis (113 min). Cannon Panten Street (01-830 0831). Progs 2.20, 4.50, 7.30, 9.55. (D)

**\* THE KITCHEN TOTO (15):** Writer-director Harry Hook makes an impressive debut with this bawdier young servant during Kenya's fight for independence. With Bob Peck and Phyllis Logan (87 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-362 5098). Progs 2.50, 5.25, 8.15.

**\* The London Film (01-830 1527). Progs 2.20, 4.55, 7.30, 9.55. (D)**

**\* Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-836 6148). Progs 1.55, 4.05, 6.20, 8.30.**

**\* MAURICE (15):** Set before the First World War, M.F. Forster's novel about Oxford, with James Wilby as the suffering Maurice and Rupert Graves as the glibster who loves him (140 min). The London Film (01-830 1527). Progs 2.20, 4.55, 7.30, 9.55. (D)

**\* A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY (PG):** Two soldiers, battered by World War One, come to terms with their problems in a remote Yorkshire village. Directed by Pat O'Connor, with Colin Firth, Kenneth Branagh, and John Wood. (104 min). Gate Notting Hill (01-727 4043). Progs 2.00, 4.30, 7.10, 9.10. (D)



Curious about John Wayne's acting in 1930, or the Fox Grandeur wide-screen process, or the justly forgotten director Ed Breese? *John Wayne's The Big Trail* (above, with Wayne and Margaret Clench), displays all these and much more. Generally photographed mountains and prairies fill the screen; wagons are lowered, to spectacular effect, over a cliff; Tyrone Power senior struts about with equal pioneer talk on his lips and voluminous padding on his stomach. Not everything here can be taken seriously, but this restored print from New York's Museum of Modern Art remains required viewing for all good buffs. A self-out attraction at the London

Film Festival, it is repeated tonight in the National Film Theatre's brief centenary salute to Karel Walsh, a veteran director of mostly cinema, whose career stretched from 1913 to 1964. *High Sierra* and *White Heat* may be familiar, but who has recently seen *O.H.S.S.* (December 15), filmed in Britain during the 1930s wave of Anglo-American ventures? Wallace Ford plays a gangster hiding out in the British Army, where he befriends John Mills and falls for Anna Lee; as an encore, he fights marauding bandits in China. Handy stuff, like all the best Walsh. National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3323), tonight, 8.45pm, £2.95. Geoff Brown

## OPERA

**\* THE BARBER OF SEVILLE:** Jonathan Miller's new *commedia dell'arte* inspired production draws strong performances from Alan Oate in the title role and Della Jones as Figaro. English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161). 7.30-10.30pm, 22-21.50. (D)

**\* THE CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN:** David Pountney's fine Janáček production for Welsh National Opera, not to be missed, with Anne Dawson in the title role. Welsh National Opera, Cardiff (01-222 68555). 7.15-10.30pm, 25-218.

## JAZZ

**\* AL GREYBUDDY TATE:** Start of another fine night from the great ex-Savoy horn player and tenor player, with the Jack Parnell Trio. Jazz Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-438 8722). 8.30pm, 25.

**\* JACK BRUCE:** The one-time Suez Canal band leader up with saxophonist Dick Heckstall-Smith and the Norman Beaton Band. Old Vic Tavern, Fletcher Gate, Nottingham (0602 585127). 7.30pm, 24.50.

**\* GEORGE FAME:** Fresh from a Garthwick tour, he appears with the Jack Sharp Big Band. 100 Club, Oxford Street, London W1 (01-836 0933). 8.30pm, 24-25.

**\* PESKAR:** Zakir Hussain's superb display of traditional ragas and modern improvisation, with Shankar and Larry Coryell. Leadmill Theatre, Leadmill Road, Sheffield S12 7AD (01-474 5000). 8pm, 25-24.50.

## CONCERTS

**\* JOHN OGDON:** This celebrated pianist plays Ravel's *Sonatas* Rachmaninov's *Sonata No 2* and pieces by Liszt and Albeniz. Barbican Centre, St. Paul's, London EC4 (01-638 8881). 1.15-5.00pm, 23. (D)

**\* HOULIGAN CAKE:** Soprano Patricia Dittmer and others perform *Miss Hooligan's Christmas* Cakes, Christmas Bells, Under the Mistletoe and other such songs. St Martin's Lane-Ludgate, Ludgate Hill, London EC4 (01-548 6054). 1.15-4.45pm, free. (D)

**\* 33 + 3:** Elton John conducts the BBC SO in Mozart's *Symphony No 33*, followed by Bruckner's *Symphony No 3*. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). 8.00pm, 23-21.50. (D)

**\* BARBICAN AT ST JOHN'S:** The London Baroque Concerto with the English Chamber Choir for Handel's *Dei Adami*, but first Simon Foster (violin) solo in Vivaldi's *Soprano*. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). 7.30pm, 23-25. (D)

**\* SWEET SCIENCE:** Under the title 'Sweet Science: Music from Medieval Italy' Gothic Voices, including Margaret Philip and Rogers Covey-Crump, sing madrigals and ballads from Italy 1350-1450. St John's, Smith Square, London W1 (01-635 2141). 7.30pm, 22-20.50.

**\* HUGHES/PHILHARMONIA:** See caption. Barbican Centre, 7.45-8.35pm, 24.50-21.50. (D)

## DANCE

**\* COPPELLA:** Northern Ballet Theatre keeps the traditional story but transfers the action to Lancashire. Theatre Royal, Norwich (0603 622205). 8.10-10.15pm, 25-8.

**\* MAYBE TOMORROW:** Christopher Burrows's new work for London Contemporary Dance Theatre with other recent creations by Slobodan Davies and John Burt Foster. Arts Centre, University of Warwick (0203 417417). 7.30-10pm, 25-50-27.

**\* THE NUTCRACKER:** Peter Scholze's production for London Festival Ballet. Hippodrome, Hurst Street Birmingham (021 622 7488). 7.30-9.40pm, 25-218. (D)

## ROCK

**\* BIG COUNTRY:** Previewing new material from a forthcoming album and holding forth with those stirring guitar parts and rhythmic, marching band-like songs. London WC2 (01-434 0403) 8pm, 23.50, for two nights.

**\* TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY:** A touch of the James Brown quick-steppin' and other such songs. You're the Man. "Wishing Well", an OK voice, and a lot of mouth between numbers. Royal Court, 1 Rye Street, London EC1 (01-748 4321). 7.30pm, 27-50.

**\* MARY COUGHLIN:** The Mean Fiddler's fifth anniversary celebrations continue with the music of the Irish rock/jazz quartet.

## WALKS

**ROYAL LONDON:** meet Westminster tube, 11am, 22.50.

**STREET HISTORY OF THE STRAND:** meet Embankment tube, 2pm, 22.50.

**COLOURFUL SAUCY SOHO:** meet Covent Garden tube, 7pm, 22.50.

**LIFE IN MEDIEVAL LONDON:** meet Museum of London, 2.30pm, 22.75.

**2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY:** meet Tower Hill tube, 3pm, 23.

**GHOSTS, GHOULS AND HAUNTED TAVERNES:** meet St Paul's tube, 7pm, 23.

**MICHAEL GAINES'S CITY:** meet St Paul's tube, 11am, 23.

## TALKS

**GEORGIAN TOWN GARDENS:** Talk by Neil Burton of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission. Institution Archaeology & History Society, Camden Head Public House, Camden Passage, London N1 (01-638 6844). 8pm, 50.

**IMAGES OF CHILDHOOD:** Lecture by Rachel Barnes on Rembrandt and Gainsborough. National Gallery, Room 38, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-836 3321). 1pm, free.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

**QUAGGA** (a) South African equine grazed, related to the wild zebra, though with fewer stripes; from Hottentot quads.

**URKATE** (a) To sting, from Latin *urica*, a stinging.

**FERRETORY** (a) An ornate portable box (or shrine) for relics in a religious procession, or the chapel in which such a shrine is deposited from Latin *ferreus*, a box.

**NINUTSU** (a) Based on the maverick theories of the Nazis, some of the most ancient and mysterious of Japanese legends; related to the Japanese word *Yin* for the moon.

**ABLAUT** (a) Change of vowel to indicate change of tense, as *gibst* from German *geben*, to give, and *gibst* and *gibst*.

## ENTERTAINMENTS

### CONCERTS

**BARBICAN HALL, 8.00pm/7.45pm**  
 \* **JOHN OGDON** (piano) with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Ravel's *Sonatas* Nos 1 & 2, Rachmaninov's *Sonata No 2*, Liszt's *Sonata in E-flat major*, Albeniz's *Sonata*. Tickets: 23-21.50. (D)

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Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1294.9 (+15.6)  
FT-SE 100  
1624.4 (+26.0)  
Bargains  
23382 (20542)  
USM (Datastream)  
127.43 (+0.91)  
THE POUND  
US dollar  
1.7975 (+0.0025)  
W German mark  
2.9955 (-0.0013)  
Trade-weighted  
75.7 (same)

Bid lifts  
Birmid  
to 317p

Birmid Quilcast's shares continued to race well away from the 300p cash bid price offered late on Monday by Blue Circle. They rose by 4p and closed at 317p in active dealing yesterday.

Birmid's board said yesterday it would "resist with vigour" Blue Circle's bid, which values the lawn mower to boiler group at £217 million.

Blue Circle holds 9.3 per cent of Birmid. The other large shareholder is M&G with about 16 per cent.

MK falls back

Shares in MK Electric slipped from 667p to 661p, suggesting the RTZ Corporation is unlikely to return with a higher bid. Its first offer of 550p was eclipsed this week when the French electrical company Legrand launched a 660p-a-share counterbid. MK is resisting both.

Redfearn rises

Redfearn, which diversified into the flexible packaging business in July while retaining its substantial glass interests, reports annual pretax profits of £4.08 million (£2.56 million) to September. The final dividend of 6.5p makes 9.5p (9p) for the year.

McCarthy up

McCarthy & Stone, Britain's leading sheltered housing developer, improved annual profits to end-August by 55 per cent to £24.9 million. The final dividend is 3.15p.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1817.47 (+5.30)
London	1294.9 (+15.6)
FT 30 Share	1294.9 (+15.6)
FT-SE 100	1624.4 (+26.0)
Birmid	317p
Blue Circle	233p
RTZ	661p
Legrand	660p
McCarthy	667p
Redfearn	661p
Wood Mackenzie	181p
TSB	181p
Dee	181p
Bonn	181p
Opec	181p

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

BRITISH	288p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
LAZIO	237p (+81p)
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INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base Rate	8.5%
3-month Interbank	8.5-9%
3-month eligible bills	8.5-9%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	8.5%
Federal Funds	8.5%
3-month Treasury	8.5-8.6%
30-year bonds	9.5-9.6%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.7975	\$ £1.7975
£ DM 2.9955	DM £2.9955
£ Sfr 2.4431	Sfr £2.4431
£ FF 110.1559	FF £110.1559
£ Yen 236.34	Yen £236.34
£ Ind 75.7	Ind £75.7
ECU 16.89116	ECU 16.89116

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$483.00 pm \$484.30
close	\$483.75-484.25 (\$289.25)
New York	Comex \$484.20-484.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Best (Jan)	pm \$17.90/bbl (\$17.85)
Barclays latest trading price	
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BP in £453m  
Britoil bid

Tender offer for 29.9%  
follows dawn raid

By John Bell, City Editor

BP yesterday launched a £453 million tender offer for a 29.9 per cent stake in Britoil, the North Sea exploration and production company. The announcement ended a day of wild speculation in the City after BP staged an anonymous "dawn raid," netting 14.9 per cent.

BP's move is an opportunistic strike to gain a near-controlling stake in some of the most attractive fields in the North Sea. In line with several other bids and market raids in the past week, it was triggered by the collapse in share prices since mid-October. Britoil shares were trading at 361p at their peak this year. Estimates of Britoil's asset value range from £3, excluding the worth of its exploration potential, to about £5, ascribing some notional value to exploration interests.

BP decided to make an offer well above the market level because investors would expect to receive a price close to that of a full-scale bid if the tender was to succeed. Although BP would not comment last night, it is likely that a high price was fixed in the knowledge that leading oil companies might be tempted to make a counterbid.

The group's big interests in producing fields include Thistle (18 per cent), Deveron (16 per cent), Ninian (21 per cent), Hutton (22 per cent), South Brae (20 per cent), Beatrice (28 per cent) and Clyde (51 per cent).

BP's move is likely to force the Government to break a deadlock over the golden share. Britoil has for some time been willing to see the Government's powers to veto would-be bidders abolished. The Government also retained similar blocking powers when it privatized Enterprise Oil. But in that case the golden share had a finite life, which expires at the end of next year.

EEC steel  
controls  
to stay

From Jonathan Brade  
Brussels

European Community industry ministers last night agreed to prolong production controls on most big steel products to try to protect continental steel makers from low-priced competition, despite British hopes that sectors could be opened to competition by the summer.

B&C in £186.4m  
link with Abaco

By Alison Eadie

British & Commonwealth yesterday unveiled its expected agreed bid for Abaco, the fast-growing financial services company with which it has close shareholding and boardroom links.

Bonn firm on interest rates

By David Smith and Bailey Morris

The West German central bank appeared to rule out any further easing of monetary policy yesterday, when it announced a new securities repurchase tender at an unchanged rate of 3.25 per cent.

Italian connection for Cannon

By Joe Joseph

Control of Cannon Group, the troubled Hollywood film production and distribution company, appears to be slipping out of the hands of Mr Menahem Golan and of his cousin, Mr Yoram Globus, and into those of Italian businessman Mr Giancarlo Parretti and his Madrid-based property group Renta Immobiliaria.

Dee profit  
drops at  
half-time

By Carol Ferguson

Dee Corporation, the food retailer which acquired the Fine Fare grocery chain last year, yesterday reported an 18 per cent drop in interim pretax profits to £3.6 million on turnover of £2.6 billion, up 5 per cent.

TSB ready to announce new  
buyer for Wood Mackenzie

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Negotiations by the Trustee Savings Bank group to sell Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, to a British institution have almost been finalized and a deal is expected to be announced on Monday.

Oil ministers meet to attempt a lasting solution on quotas

Opec hope for early agreement

From David Young, Vienna

Ministers attending the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting in Vienna are believed to be heading towards a decision to continue their present agreement on prices and production in a move to defend the present \$18 (£10.05) oil price.

Redfearn plc

"A year of outstanding achievement"

Preliminary Announcement  
52 weeks ended 27 September 1987

	1987 £	1986 £	Increase %
Turnover	70.2m	58.9m	+19
Profit before taxation	4.1m	2.6m	+59
Profit after taxation	3.5m	2.3m	+51
Extraordinary items	-	0.4m	-
Profit attributable to shareholders	3.5m	2.7m	+28

Earnings per ordinary share

49.69p	36.43p	+36
--------	--------	-----

Dividends per ordinary share

9.5p	6.0p	+58
------	------	-----

John Pratt, the Chairman, reports:  
"We have secured real gains in all key areas - sales, profit margins, earnings and gearing. We have also succeeded in fulfilling a major objective - that of widening our base by acquiring a third significant packaging activity thereby reducing our dependence on glass without diminishing the importance we attach to it."



In the limelight: Giancarlo Parretti (left), head of Renta Immobiliaria, and Menahem Golan, chairman of Cannon, yesterday

Italian connection for Cannon

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Mr Golan and Mr Globus will remain key members of a four-man team that will run Cannon's day-to-day affairs. But the shift of power marks a new phase in efforts to save out of bankruptcy by a company which has suffered heavy losses, run up onerous debts and has just emerged from a bruising year-long investigation by America's Securities & Exchange Commission into its accounting practices.

But Cannon's financial headaches have not discouraged Mr Golan and Mr Globus, whose frenetic enthusiasm has earned them the sobriquet of "The Go-Go Boys".

Though still awash in debts, and facing a lukewarm box-office response to recent releases such as *Superman IV*, Mr Golan yesterday outlined a busy schedule of filming for the new year, announced plans to build more multiplex cinemas in Britain and Italy and hinted at Cannon's bold ambitions.

"We aim to have under our roof not only motion pictures," Mr Golan told a news conference at the Cannon Cinema in Shaftesbury Avenue, London. "We want to expand into tourism, hotels, travel agency, banking and other investments."

"Mr Parretti has poured a fortune into this company and has helped us to reduce a major part of our debt. We are planning 20 productions for the coming year. The fact that we will be able to continue with this aggressive schedule is due to the help of Mr Parretti."

The equity injection marks the latest in a series of moves by Mr Parretti to rescue Cannon, which ran up losses of \$41.4 million in the first nine months of this year, since he was brought in to help sort out the group's finances in May.

On September 29 Cannon struck a complex deal under which it sold its theatres, the Elstree film studios and Cannon's corporate headquarters in Los Angeles for \$338 million to Renta Immobiliaria before leasing them back.

Mr Parretti's principal investment vehicle is Interpart, a Luxembourg company which controls Renta and has a half share in Interpart, another Luxembourg company jointly owned with Mr Golan and Mr Globus.

Interpart, Interpart Corporation and Media - an Interpart subsidiary and one of the world's biggest travel and hotel groups - now control more than 50 per cent of Cannon's equity, according to Mr Golan. Mr Parretti is the biggest single force within this majority stake.

But a new phase of expansion for the refinanced group will remain on the drawing board until Cannon settles a class civil action being brought by its shareholders against the company and its board following the fall in the price of Cannon's shares on the New York stock market from \$45 to \$24.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Eldridge Pope profit edges ahead to £3.4m

Eldridge Pope, the Dorset brewer, yesterday announced profits before tax of £3.4 million for the year to September 30, compared with £3.3 million last year. The company has lifted its final dividend by 13.3 per cent to 4.25p, an overall payment of 7.75p compared with last year's 7p. Earnings per share increased from 24.8p to 27p.

The company highlighted "success in pub retailing and increased sales in wine" as the main features behind the results. However, Eldridge's substantial improvement programme in its tied estate has created an additional refurbishment charge of £400,000.

## Learmonth moves up

Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems lifted pretax profits from £517,000 to £584,000 in the six months to end-October. Mr Rupert Burchett, chairman of the information technology group, is confident of achieving "respectable results for the full year". First half earnings were 37 per cent higher than a year ago at 3.7p, and the net interim dividend is 0.5p a share.

## ITL bounces into black

ITL Information Technology, the computer company, made pretax profits in the half-year to October 11 of £352,000 compared with a loss of £532,000 last time thanks to big contracts with, among others, British Telecom. The share placing earlier this year raised £3.5 million for acquisitions should the opportunity arise, ITL said. The interim dividend was 0.4p.

## Braithwaite climbs

Helped by input from its acquisitions, Braithwaite, the engineering and manufacturing group, lifted pretax profits from £106,000 to £205,000 in the six months to September 30, on sales of £10.6 million.

Andrews, the plant hire specialist Braithwaite bought in May as part of its diversification plans, was the division most responsible for the improved figures, and Braithwaite says the division is operating well as it enters its busiest part of the year. Once again there is no interim dividend, though the company is promising more than 3p a share for the full year.

## Computer firm soars

Harland Simon Group, the Milton Keynes electronic engineering and computer systems designer, raised pretax profits by 83 per cent to £402,000 in the first half. Turnover went up 65 per cent to nearly £6 million. Shareholders collect an interim dividend of 0.6p. Mr David Mahony, chairman, said: "We confidently anticipate a satisfactory outcome for the year as a whole."

## VPI jumps 94% to £4m

VPI, the financial and corporate communications group, almost doubled its profits in the year to end-September, sustaining a trend that has been established since the group was founded as Vallis Pollen in 1979. Pretax profits of £4.14 million are 94 per cent up. Earnings per share rose from 9.7p to 16.6p and the final dividend of 1.5p lifts the total by 50 per cent to 2.25p.

## Gilt launch for Liffe

The London International Financial Futures Exchange will next month launch its twentieth contract - the Medium Gilt Future - in anticipation of the Bank of England's auction of the relevant gilts.

Mr Michael Jenkins, Liffe's chief executive, said exchange members and the cash market welcomed the contract, which further extends Liffe's range of sterling interest rate futures and options to support the domestic cash markets. The contract, to be launched on January 7, focuses on the seven-to-10 year section of the British yield curve and provides hedging and trading opportunities to complement the existing Long Gilt contract.

## STOCK MARKET

## Narrower dealing spreads may boost confidence

By Geoffrey Foster

Dealers were beginning to take a more optimistic short-term view of the market yesterday and it was not only because share prices had managed to take Monday's recovery a useful stage further.

Their new-found enthusiasm apparently follows unconfirmed reports, which have a habit of filtering through the system, that two leading firms of market-makers are on the verge of narrowing dealing spreads - the difference between their buying and selling prices - putting them back to near pre-crash levels.

Most dealers believe that this would have an immediate, beneficial impact on the volume of business and help the market sustain a prolonged recovery.

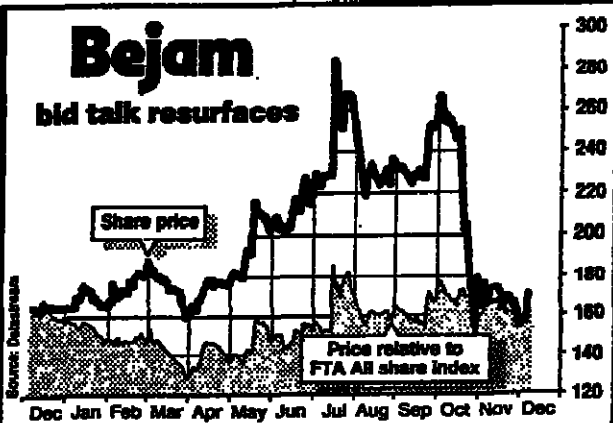
Dealing spreads were widened considerably during the crash as market-makers took defensive action to try to stem the wave of selling which followed the dramatic decline on Wall Street. However, they have remained wide ever since to the detriment of the dealing system and most brokers believe the market-makers' actions have brought about the dramatic reduction in business during the past few weeks which has seen total business volume fall to the lowest levels for more than a year.

Compared with a dealing spread of just 5p six months ago, dealers are now quoting a margin of 10p in a leader such as Reed International, while there is a difference of 20p between the buying and selling price of ICI, when a margin of about 5p to 7p was in force before.

Dealers, therefore, hope that market-makers make up their minds quickly and return to their old ways and the equity market might still be able to make its usual pre-Christmas surge.

Yesterday, buoyed by the overnight performance on Wall Street and other world bourses, share prices opened higher and were then carried further forward by news of the dawn raid on Britoil. This sparked off renewed speculative support for other bid favourites around the market and the tone remained firm.

However, enthusiasm was



ed somewhat in the afternoon and, as Wall Street failed to hold an early rise, prices came well off their best levels of the day. The FT-SE 100 index touched a high of 1,640.1 first thing, but later reacted to finish 26 points higher at 1,624.4. The FT index of 30 shares closed with a rise of

15.6 points at 1,294.9. Trading in the gilt-edged market, on the other hand, remained quietly dull. Closing falls ranged to £4.

Britoil finally closed a hectic session 97p higher at 282p, after 289p, as BP revealed itself to be the mystery buyer stalking the shares. By the end of the day, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, had acquired a 14.9 per cent stake in Britoil for BP, paying £225 million for the privilege.

Other speculative favourites in the oil sector were stimulated by the development. Enterprise jumped 19p to 230p, Lasmo advanced 21p to 237p and Ultramar rose by 17p to 163p.

Bejam, the frozen food retailer and old takeover favourite, was back in demand, rising by 13p to 168p, as bid talk resurfaced.

For well over a year now the stock market has been convinced that Bejam's days of independence are numbered and in July the shares soared

to a peak of 290p as speculation about a bid from Iceland Frozen Foods intensified.

The decision by Mr John Aphor, the founder and chairman, to hand over the day-to-day supervision of the group and concentrate more on his other interests - Lodge Care, the rapidly-expanding, USM-listed old people's home group - only served to increase speculation.

But the shares fell sharply, along with every other bid favourite, in the October crash, to touch a low of 149p and have only just started to move forward again as dealers believe that the recent disappointing results have left them vulnerable.

Iceland has always been the obvious choice to make a bid. Its interests, which are concentrated in the South-west and North-west of England, look a perfect fit for Bejam with its significant interests in the South-east.

Redland gained 18p to 383p. Acquisitum, the clothing group, perked up as the "A" shares rose 5p to 80p. Mrs Joan D'Olier, an analyst at County NatWest, said the broker, rates them as a "buy."

Sales in Britain and North America are buoyant and, with 25 per cent earnings growth this year, the shares are oversold.

on speculation that it is on the verge of sorting out a tangled situation in Australia whereby Redland holds 50.1 per cent in Monier, the Australian building material group, but New Zealand entrepreneur Mr Alan Hawkins's Equitcorp, has built up a holding of 48 per cent of Monier's shares and is bidding Aus\$415 for the rest.

## TEMPUS

## Dee's Gateway to recovery

The market's perverse response to poor figures is, often, to mark up the reporting company's shares. There is universal relief that the bad news is not worse, and investors can concentrate on the good times ahead.

But there is a lack of conviction that the worst is over for Dee Corporation, which yesterday produced the expected fall in pretax profits, but whose shares then fell against a rising market.

In spite of confident noises that the three-year programme to integrate Fine Fare into Gateway was on schedule, the company has remained shy to show for it. And there are worries that Gateway may not be a winning formula.

But it is too easy to focus on the negatives. Indeed, shinkage has been much worse than expected but this is coming under control. It is less easy to be sanguine about the prospects for Herman's, the US sporting goods and ski equipment chain at the farthest end of the discretionary spending spectrum.

Turnover growth is lagging the rapid expansion in outlets. But Gateway is 80 per cent of Dee's business, and will make or break the company. Eighteen months into its re-organization programme, Dee admits to a 6.5 per cent turnover dip in midsummer when the disruption due to closures, relocations, re-organization and new product lines was at its peak. But it appears to be experiencing 1.5 per cent monthly growth in turnover in completed stores.

Dee will struggle to match last year's pretax profits of £187 million but if it succeeds, the prospective multiple is only 10 and the yield on an unchanged dividend is 7 per cent.

Those who sneer at Gateway's downward appeal are reminded that most of its stores are in locations where there is little competition. The shares underperformed by 24 per cent last year and there may never be a better buying opportunity.

## McCarthy sound

Sheltered housing is so much part of the domestic scene now that it merits a television comedy series of its own in Channel Four's *Never Say Die*. Meanwhile, profitability at market leader McCarthy & Stone shows real demand has not dried up either.

Admittedly, the buoyancy of the housing market has underpinned McCarthy's progress as most purchasers are trading down. But economies of scale and good cost control have widened trading margins to an impressive 30.2 per cent.

Average prices rose 17 per cent last year and are already up by as much again. This, however, is partly due to a higher product specification.

Profits from other activities are still modest. Management fees generated about £8 million and are at least as profitable as the rest of the business. Soon, 10,000 units will be managed by the group, of which about 20 per cent are for third parties.



## Redfearn

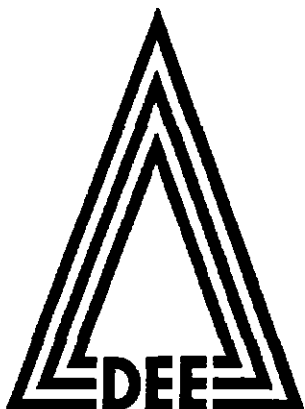
There is nothing quite like a new wrapping to change a product's image, nor a change of name to make people sit up and take notice. Redfearn has done a bit of both in recent months, and the developments can only be to its advantage.

It bought Flexpack in July for £19.5 million taking it into the promising packaging market, and dropped the "National Glass" from its name to reflect more accurately that it is a changed, and growing, animal. As the message gets across that plastics are assuming a greater importance in its line, the share's 25 per cent discount to the market should narrow.

Annual results to the end of September showing pretax profits of £4.08 million against £2.56 million and improved margins look sure springboards for further growth this year, which should see profits - on a conservative estimate - in the £6.5 million region.

The British glass industry, having been on the down trend on all fronts, is now perking up.

Add in the 24 per cent held by New Zealand Mr Ron Skerley, whose portfolio holdings have always generated market interest, and another 9.4 per cent held by Mr Dick Pratt, the Australian entrepreneur, and the shares at 36p on an undemanding 6.7 times rating are looking cheap.



## The Dee Corporation PLC

INTERIM RESULTS  
(unaudited)

	28 weeks to 7/11/87 £ million	28 weeks to 8/11/86 £ million
Turnover	2,615.8	2,479.1
Trading profit	70.8	82.7
Interest	(7.2)	(4.5)
Pre-tax profit	63.6	78.2
Taxation	(17.9)	(16.5)
Profit after tax	45.7	61.7
Extraordinary items	—	(27.4)
Profit for the period	45.7	34.3
Dividends per 5p share	3.0p	3.0p
Earnings per 5p share	5.2p	7.0p

Mr Alec Monk, Chairman and Chief Executive, said:

"We have totally reshaped our main businesses in a very short time and as a result we have enhanced our competitive position and improved the service which we offer to our customers. Much work still needs to be done but we are maintaining our schedule within budget.

We foresee that the major changes which we have undertaken would be disruptive and would impact on earnings but this stage in the integration of Fine Fare is now substantially behind us and we are tackling the future with vigour and confidence."

Copies of the full Interim Statement may be obtained from The Secretary, The Dee Corporation PLC, Silbury Court, 418 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 2NB.

## ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
Abbey 357	Costs 2,398	Land Sea 1,398	Romney 360
AdLib 1,884	CU 4,111	Laporte 17	Royal Bank 2,772
Amrad 2,958	Corn Gold 485	LAG 1,373	Royal Ins 557
ASDA 2,172	Cookson 123	Lloyds 1,553	Saitori 2,104
AB Foods 227	Courtesy 1,218	Lockhart 3,228	Scott & N 417
Argyll 2,447	Daily 342	Lucas 215	Scott & N 417
BAA 980	Dee 14,888	Magnet 435	Sears 6,434
BET 671	Deane 1,503	M&S 3,129	Seidwick 3,188
BTI 1,801	ECC 225	Manxair Cm 4,798	Shell 4,157
BTC 3,585	Edinburgh 4,577	SEPC 2,451	Smith & N 1,528
Barclays 604	Ferranti 6,855	Metal Box 183	STC 1,894
Bass 270	Flora 1,427	Midland 918	Stan Chart 30
Bechtel 1,892	Gen Act 4,200	Midland 918	Stan Chart 30
BGC 685	GEOR 2,597	Nest 1,436	Sun Alliance 328
BICC 777	Glen 2,128	Nin Food 1,381	T & N 52
Blue Arrow 2,582	Globe 182	PIO 205	Tarmac 5,117
Blue Circle 381	Granada 1,629	Pearl 292	Tate & Lyle 388
BOC 1,328	Grand Met 3,917	Pearson 982	TBS 2,060
BOG 2,243	GUS A 211	Philips 1,511	Tesco 2,481
BP 1,218	GPE 674	Plassey 3,965	Thorn EMI 2,536
Br Aero 2,880	GKN 586	Prudential 308	Travelodge 531
Br Airways 2,044	Guthrie 4,658	Racal 5,206	THF 353
Br Comm 601	Hann A 14	Rk Hovis 448	Unilever 2,354
Br Gas 15,051	Hanson 5,972	RAC 380	Unilever 709
Br Petrol 5,888	Hawley 563	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Br Telecom 7,705	Hawley 563	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Bristol 150,058	Imperial 1,729	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Burford 1,151	ICI 1,825	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Burmah 159	ICI 1,825	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Burns 1,345	Imperial 1,729	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
C&W 6,248	Lasmo 2,588	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628
Cadbury 1,091	Ladbroke 1,151	Redland 4,364	United Ede 1,628

## Export controls eased

By Colin Narbrough

The Government yesterday eased export controls on the sale to the Soviet Union of some electronic goods hitherto banned because they were considered strategically sensitive.

The change comes the day after the mini-summit between Mr Mikhail Gorbachev and Mrs Thatcher. Among the goods which will not require export licences after January 1 are "low-level" personal computers, audio recorders and players, certain commercial and professional video cassettes, magnetic tape and floppy discs, some transistors and analogue video recorders.

The Department of Trade and Industry, announcing the changes on the 1987 Export of Goods (Control) Order, said controls had also been introduced or extended on a number of items, including chemicals, integrated circuits, submersible systems and nuclear separation materials.

## C&amp;W delays sale of shares in HK holding company

Cable and Wireless and the Hong Kong government have shelved plans to reduce their stakes in a new holding company which will merge the Hong Kong interests of the British communications firm and Hong Kong Telephone.

Cable and Wireless yesterday unveiled the new group, which is to be called Hong Kong Telecommunications. It will be 80 per cent owned by Cable and Wireless plc, 9 per cent by Hong Kong shareholders and the remaining 11 per cent by the Hong Kong government.

Hong Kong Telecommunications will in turn control Hong Kong Telephone, which has the rights to provide the Crown Colony's telephone service until 1995, and Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong) which has the franchise for the international telecommunications facilities until 2006.

Cable and Wireless plc owns 79 per cent of Hong Kong Telephone and 80 per

cent of Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong). The Hong Kong government owns the rest of the Cable and Wireless operation in Hong Kong.

Cable and Wireless and the Hong Kong government had previously said they planned to jointly offer another 11 per cent of the new company to local and overseas investors in January or February.

But yesterday Cable and Wireless said that as a result of the stock market crash it would be "inappropriate to proceed" as planned.

C&W and the Hong Kong government said they still intend to sell off shares in the new firm "as and when they consider market conditions appropriate."

But they added: "The form and timing of such offering and the number of shares to be sold will be kept under close review."

Under the restructuring, Hong Kong Telephone shareholders will receive one Hong

Kong Telecommunications share for each two Hong Kong Telephone shares and one warrant for every five shares. Each Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong) share will be substituted for one of Hong Kong Telecommunications.

Sir Eric Sharp, the chairman of Cable and Wireless said: "At the time Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong) was formed in 1981, there was an understanding between Cable and Wireless plc and the Hong Kong government that, at some future date, the public would be given an opportunity to participate in Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong). We believe that Hong Kong Telecommunications is the appropriate vehicle to effect this participation."

Sir Eric will become chairman of the new company and Mr David K F Li, the present chairman of Hong Kong Telephone and Mr Brian Robertson, the joint managing director of C&W, will become deputy chairman.

## Osborne half-time profits up 66%

By Allison Eadie

Osborne & Little, the wallpaper and fabric designer, made £843,000 pretax profits in the six months to the end of September, an increase of 66 per cent over the previous half. Turnover rose 36 per cent to £52.2 million and earnings per share by 69 per cent to 7.8p.

Trade sales in the United Kingdom rose by 20 per cent and sales through O & L's own retail outlets were 40 per cent higher. Trade sales

account for 85 per cent of British turnover.

Sir Peter Osborne, the chairman, said the company was now focusing on the US. Sales there in the six months were £612,000 against £430,000 for all last year.

O & L's collections in the US have been priced up to 40 per cent cheaper than comparable products. Prices will be increased from next April and margins should be main-

tained, despite the falling dollar.

Five new collections were launched in October and they have been well received. Wallpapers will again be emphasized following the recent concentration on fabrics, Sir Peter said.

O & L plans to move from the USM to a full listing in the next six months.

The interim dividend was raised 31 per cent to 1.7p.

## BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adm & Company	9.00%
BDO	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.00%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	9.00%
Citibank NA	8.50%



# Restructuring of European steel industry a priority, says Scholey

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Robert Scholey, chairman of the increasingly profitable British Steel Corporation, said last night that the restructuring of the European steel industry is now the "first and foremost" priority for governments and companies.

"Continuing excess capacity resulting from the stagnation of demand following the first oil crisis, as against the expansion of capacity through investment put in train during the boom years of the early 1970s, lies, as everyone must now surely understand, at the very heart of the problems faced by the European steel industry."

Sir Robert, speaking in Sheffield as European in-

dustry ministers were attempting to thrash out a new regime of quotas for the industry at a meeting in Brussels, said that the EEC steel industry was "gravely handicapped" by its slowness to complete essential restructuring.

The compulsory production quota system, introduced to provide the industry with breathing space while fundamental restructuring took place, now appeared to be seen in some quarters as an end in itself.

"Worse, the industry has become intensely self-regarding and absorbed with its own problems. Indeed, the whole

European Coal and Steel Community steel market support system has become so elaborate and complex that it constitutes a distraction from those key tasks focused on meeting customers' changing requirements to which the industry should urgently be directing its energies in order to ensure its future."

With the BSC heading for a net profit this year of about £350 million and privatization within the next 18 months, Sir Robert, delivering the annual Hatfield Memorial Lecture, said there was no future in the European steel industry seeking to continue artificial market support measures internally on an indefinite basis.

"Nor, on the other hand, is there any future in trying to live permanently behind protective barriers against third country competition except in specific and defined circumstances as provided under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to counter subsidised or dumped imports which threaten to undermine the European industry."

If wholesale protection of steel were to be resorted to and consumers denied access in the long term to genuinely competitive offers from the developing world and elsewhere outside the EEC, the

thrust of external competition would simply move downstream, said Sir Robert.

Britain's privately-owned steelmakers, who produce steel largely by the electric arc furnace method, yesterday made a strong plea to the Government not to agree to big electricity price increases next year. At the annual meeting of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, Mr David Houghton, the president, said the cost of planned price rises would be at least £12.5 million a year to the private steel makers, almost one third of the companies' total combined profits for 1986.

## COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

# Normality peeps from the clouds of hysteria

Whisper it gently, but financial markets have now enjoyed two successive days free from the hysteria endemic since the October crash. It is too soon to say that normal service has resumed and that investment decisions are once again being made on familiar terms. The key to current events is still more in the realm of mass psychology than in the bread-and-butter territory of yields and profit prospects.

This week's headlines show, however, that life goes on, crash or no crash. On Monday, the French group Legrand put a bid price on MK Electric that validates the levels reached in pre-crash markets. Blue Circle offered £217 million for Birmid Qualcast and the acquisitive Williams Holdings ended its temporary abstinence with a £133 million deal to buy more of the UK paint business.

Yesterday, British & Commonwealth took advantage of lower prices to bid for Abaco, which it knows well. And BP went out to buy cheap oil reserves.

Some of the shrewder financial brains in the City have concluded that there is little point in waiting for the equity market to reach bottom when there is long-term value available today. Experience of the 1974 confidence crisis suggests that when the market turns, it could be harder for bulls to buy than it has been lately for bears to sell.

Those buying now are doing so on the basis that any future falls in share prices are going to reflect the traditional sedate slide of the dreary cyclical bear market rather than anything like a repeat of the autumn crash. Market risk is once again bearable.

There is a high risk of recession in the US and elsewhere. There is a lesser risk of a world recession on the scale that followed the two oil shocks. This depends in part on the economic policy responses adopted by individual countries and agreed internationally. International awareness of the risk and relatively swift reactions have, however, virtually ruled out a depression of the kind that followed the 1929 crash.

On Wall Street, share prices would still look far too high if there were a repeat of the oil shock recessions - at least if ratings on the Standard & Poor's share indices were to sink to the levels seen at the end of 1974 or mid-1980. In London, the risk looks smaller. Share prices have already fallen further and recession should not hit Europe so hard if the West Germans act sensibly.

The 100-share index is still more likely to stand lower than higher in six months' time. Acquisitive industrial companies and big institutional investors must perform accept that risk and return cautiously to something approaching normal business, just as big exporters cannot stop trading to wait for currencies to stabilize.

The beneficial result of that judgement is that both bidders and institu-

tional investors are taking a longer-term view. Industrial logic has returned as the main motive for bidders.

Institutional investors can now be expected to become selective buyers of the quality stocks in those sectors which have been worst hit. This is the classic long view which looks through to the other side of the trough. Cash is still king, but enduring assets are no longer to be despised.

## Waltzing in Vienna

Today's meeting of Opec in Vienna opens with the oil price fundamentals pointing in two different directions. The outlook for the world economy has worsened because of the fall in stock market prices which is likely to imply lower demand for oil. But the fall in the dollar exchange rate has already effectively devalued the price of oil in terms of the currencies of many consuming nations. This could increase demand, providing some underpinning for the price in dollar terms.

As Opec's oil ministers begin another round of their stately dance, the mood is sombre. Relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran since the tragedy at Mecca have deteriorated to rock bottom which bodes ill for agreement on production sharing and price support. The last time Saudi-Iranian relations reached their present pitch was at the beginning of 1986 when some members' refusal to stick by their production quotas had forced Saudi Arabia as the "swing producer" to cut its output right back to 2.5 million barrels a day. That was the prelude to the collapse of oil prices in the first half of 1986 which is scarcely a good omen.

Nobody is expecting price movements on that scale this time, but it is clearly going to be difficult for Opec to reach agreement. Iraq is determined to raise its production quota from the 1.54 million bpd allocated to it at present to the 2.37 million bpd agreed for Iran. Iran is equally determined that Iraq's quota shall stay where it is, nor is it prepared, like the Kuwaitis, to forecast an increase in demand for Opec oil overall. The testing time will be the first quarter of next year when high stocks are expected to meet much of the seasonal demand for oil.

For the British economy the implications, as usual, are mixed. Lower oil prices mean higher demand which among things will bring in more government revenue. Revenues from oil will, however, suffer both from any fall in the price and from the fall in the dollar. In his Autumn Statement, the Chancellor assumed an oil price next year averaging \$18 a barrel, which according to Kleinwort Grieveson could still be on the cards. Where the dollar will be in 12 months' time is a good deal less certain.

## Hartlepool marina scheme launched

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday introduced a £40 million scheme to redevelop the Hartlepool waterfront. The aim is to create a large marina complex in the town, on the north-east coast of England, in partnership with private investors and developers, as part of the Government's urban regeneration programme.

The Teesside Development Corporation, chaired by Mr Ron Norman, was the first of the new urban regeneration organizations to be visited by Mrs Thatcher. On that occasion she called for "initiative, talent and ability" to be used in the drive for renewal, attributes which the TDC has adopted as its slogan.



Making plans for Teesside: Nicholas Ridley, the Environment Secretary (left), and Ron Norman, chairman of the TDC

## Spurs expands into sports and leisurewear

By Michael Tate

Spurs is expanding its business into women's fashion leisurewear. The sportswear leisure group is being put together by the Tottenham Hotspur brand around the famous North London football club is extending its clothing distribution operations with the acquisition of two sister companies in Leicester for up to £3.48 million.

Marx imports women's sportswear, which is also worn as fashionable casual wear, while Stumps specializes in Nicholasucci tennis clothing and track suits, and in cricket wear.

All the clothes are manufactured in the Far East and sold through wholesalers, although both companies are beginning to sell through High Street chains, such as House of Fraser and Richards.

The acquisition will double the size of Tottenham Hotspur's leisurewear business, which handles the British distribution of Hummel sports and leisurewear.

The down-payment is £2.48 million, comprising £1 million cash, £1 million in loan notes and 500,000 ordinary shares, but a further £1 million will be payable if profits for the year to next September are on target.

In the year to end-September, the companies achieved a combined profit of £383,000, compared with just £61,000 in the 11 months to September 1985. Further growth is forecast for the current year, although the rate of growth is expected to slow down.

Both Mr Barry Kennedy and Miss Jenny Burrell, directors of both companies, will join the enlarged group with three-year service contracts.

## Fidelity holds back new PEP

Fidelity Investment Services has deferred the launch of its 1988 Personal Equity Plan until after the Budget next year.

Fidelity was the first group to launch a PEP and is one of the biggest players in the market with about 27,000 investors in its 1987 plan. However, in common with other plan managers, Fidelity has found the response to PEPs in the first year disappointing.

Mr Barry Bateman, the Fidelity managing director, hopes the government, in response to lobbying, will improve tax concessions to make PEPs more attractive.

## Building sector set for high rise

By Our Industrial Correspondent

The stock market crash will have little immediate impact on the fortunes of the increasingly buoyant construction industries, says an assessment published yesterday by the National Economic Development Office.

A report from the Nedo construction joint forecasting committee discounts the possibility of a world recession in the wake of the stock market crash. Barring severe worsening of market conditions, an adverse effect on construction from the sharp fall in share prices would depend on companies reassessing investment plans, it says.

"Any revision to those plans would take some time to affect the level of output of construction."

Builders and civil engineers

were at the end of a "stimulating" year, said the committee, with business levels at their highest for 20 years. The figures for this year are expected to show a rise of 7.5 per cent in the level of work.

"The high growth rate for this year stems entirely from the private sector and in particular from the remarkable rise of at least 20 per cent confidently predicted for commercial construction."

In 1988 and 1989 however, the combination of a lower rate of growth in private-sector construction activity and a higher rate of decline in the public sector implies a moderate rate of growth of building output followed by a marginal improvement.

The Nedo forecast excludes the impact of the Channel

tunnel as it might distort industrial construction figures, but includes the Canary Wharf development in London's Docklands, which adds about 2.5 per cent to commercial construction activity.

The committee said that while construction output would grow by 7.5 per cent this year, new work for the private sector is expected to be 12.5 per cent above last year.

Private housing starts this year are likely to reach a peak of nearly 185,000, the highest since the early 1970s, falling to 170,000 next year.

Public housing starts are expected to fall from 28,000 this year to 22,000 next year and 20,000 in 1989. The committee said the Housing Act could hit the future level of local authority house build-

ing. Only 30,000 council houses will be completed this year, with a fall to 26,000 and 22,000 by 1989.

The value of output of council houses is expected to drop to £200 million in 1989, from £666 million last year.

Commercial construction is expected to remain the star sector of the industries. But only a marginal increase is forecast for 1989 because "the offices sub-sector will then be past the heyday of the Stock Exchange Big-Bang era and into the post big-crash era."

The committee considered that some slowdown on the retail side of commercial construction was likely. The rate of growth this year is forecast at 20 per cent, followed by 10 per cent next and 1 per cent in 1989.

## Masters of the dance

The demure-looking Debbie Moore, of Pineapple fame, has a surprisingly ill-tempered tongue. When her ex-husband, Norris Masters, told her that he would be making a counter offer for the Pineapple name and its three London dance studios - his verbal reaction was apparently unprintable. "She was not very pleased," Masters says diplomatically. He is offering to pay "a proper commercial price" for the business they built up in their "together" days, after talk that Masters would buy it back for a "nominal" fee. The value of the business is still being quantified by accountants. Touché Ross, but as Masters, the chairman of Gamba Timeshare, Europe's largest dance shoe and clothing manufacturer, tells me: "It's worth more to me than her because it would fit in so well with our existing business - we already have 10 retail shops." Pineapple's studios and fashion business lost £124,000 last year, but Masters is confident that, as with Gamba, he can turn it around. "It was making profits of £200,000 before I left in 1984," he says. Does Moore's move mean the end of her affair with Pineapple chairman Peter Bain, and a reunion with Masters, father of her child? "No chance," says Masters. "I'm living with a very nice lady who runs our Covent Garden shop and am very happy." Moore's London house is, on the other hand, up for sale.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Look back in hunger

There were a lot of rumbling stomachs yesterday during Dee Corporation's interim results presentation at the Barbican. Food companies can usually be relied upon to supply sustenance to weary backs around lunchtime, and in the pre-Christmas period, some have even been known to dispense hampers (small) of own-label goodies as a public relations play. Not so Dee. The press

briefing began after coffee and biscuits at 11.30am, and finished at 12.45pm. But no lunch was on offer, and the dozens or so journalists present had no option but to go off in search of sandwiches elsewhere. The analysts were offered similar fare. Could this be why they have been downgrading their forecasts? And why this morning's newspaper reports were so sour?

## Scots missed

Guinness is not the only company to incur the wrath of the powerful Scottish institutions. Standard Chartered Bank, whose agreed merger - and not hostile takeover, as we erroneously suggested the other day - with the Royal Bank of Scotland back in 1981

was quashed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, also got a hostile reception from the Scottish lobby. "They didn't think we were Scottish enough," says spokesman Will Manser, "even though the surnames of our three top men at the time were Graham (now chairman), McCulloch and McWilliam."



"Just a simple card this year, wishing everybody a very happy Christmas in 1988"

### Drinks up

A Christmas present for the discerning man or woman who has everything? For about £140 (Sotheby's estimate) you can buy a bottle of Macallan Royal Marriage Malt Whisky, a blend of 1948 and 1961 malts, created to commemorate the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. At the same auction, being held today, you could also pick up a special reserve bottle of Martell Cognac, made from 1815, 1906, 1914 and 1918 vintages, to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. It is expected to fetch as much as £250.

## Ronson delighter

For a man facing criminal charges in connection with the Guinness affair, property-to-petrol station tycoon Gerald Ronson still seems to be feeling remarkably benevolent towards his fellow human beings. In Israel this week, he has apparently been visiting the site of a new high school in the town of Ashkelon, being built in memory of his father, Henry. Multi-millionaire Ronson has already contributed £3.5 million towards the cost of construction and has now, I hear, pledged an additional donation of £50,000 to help furnish it. Word of this generosity comes just a couple of weeks after a Jewish charity boxing function in Marylebone, when amused diners heard a guest speaker from the Fraud Squad thank those who had sent donations, but were unable to attend. Working down the long list, he suddenly paused and, with a wry grin, thanked one Gerald Ronson for his kind donation of £1,000 and his company - Heron Corporation - for advertising in the programme.

London-based staff at EF Hutton, already makyup with the identity of their new parent company, Shearson Lehman - one broker described it as "the least desirable of the partners we could have married up with" - are, I hear, further aggravated by an immediate freeze on expenses. With the local sandwich delivery firm said to be doing a roaring trade, one employee reported: "We have been told not to even bother to submit expenses."

Carol Leonard

# Paterson Zochonis 1987

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Year ended 31st May	1987	1986
Turnover	£207.9m	£241.7m
Profit before tax	£33.3m	£42.3m
Profit after tax	£21.1m	£21.3m
Earnings per share	42.74p	42.97p
Total dividends per share	7.10p	6.50p

The reduction in the group's pre tax profit was more than accounted for by the fall in the value of the Nigerian currency from the equivalent of 61p in May 1986 to 14p in May 1987.

Offsetting the decline, the tax charge has fallen from 49% last year to 37% this year and as a result the profit after tax was only marginally lower.

## Nigeria

The effect of the abolition of import controls and the introduction of strict monetary policies has been to reduce consumer demand and generate keen competition. We believe that these measures offer the prospect of an improved economic climate and that our organisation is well placed to participate in any upturn in the economy.

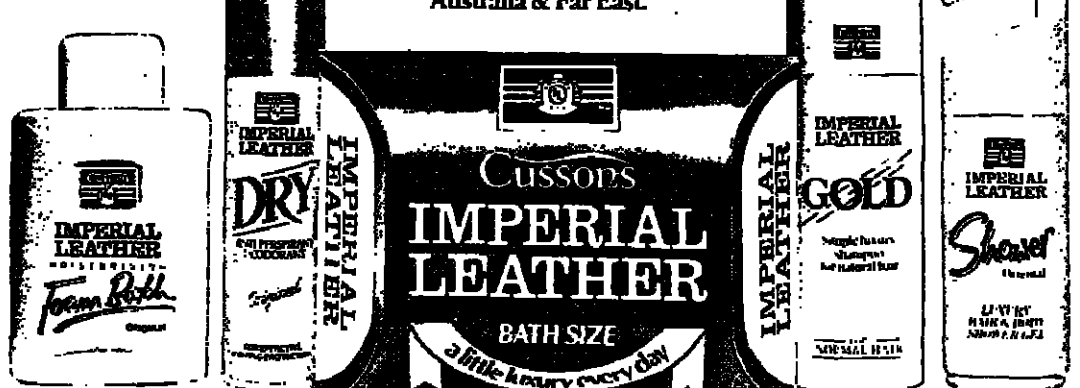
## Cussons

Profit showed a further increase with all companies performing well. Cussons maintained its share of the U.K. soap market and increased its share in the toiletries sector. Australia and Kenya made further progress and a new company has been formed in Thailand to manufacture and market Cussons' products there.

## Current year

The Cussons and Minerva operations have made a satisfactory start but demand for consumer goods in Nigeria continues to fall affecting the output and margins. If the low level of demand in Nigeria continues the profit of the group for the first half year is expected to show a reduction of 25%.

PATERSON ZOCHONIS PLC, BRIDGEWATER HOUSE, 60 WHITWORTH STREET, MANCHESTER M1 6LU  
Africa, United Kingdom & Europe, Australia & Far East.





## WORLD MARKETS ROUNDUP

# Opening rise cut back in New York

● **New York** — Arcata Graphics Co said that it has received a 10-year contract worth more than \$100 million to continue printing the West Coast editions of *USA Weekend* for Gannett Co Inc.

## Tokyo gains as dealers see market turnaround

**FRANKFURT**

## Hopes of stable dollar prompt firmer prices

"Much of the buying was speculative," one dealer said. "People hope Thursday's figures will boost the dollar."

The Commerzbank 60-

## HONG KONG

## Hang Seng recovers with 91-point rise

Brokers said hopes that the American trade figures, due tomorrow, might show a reduced trade deficit helped buoy prices.

## APPOINTMENTS

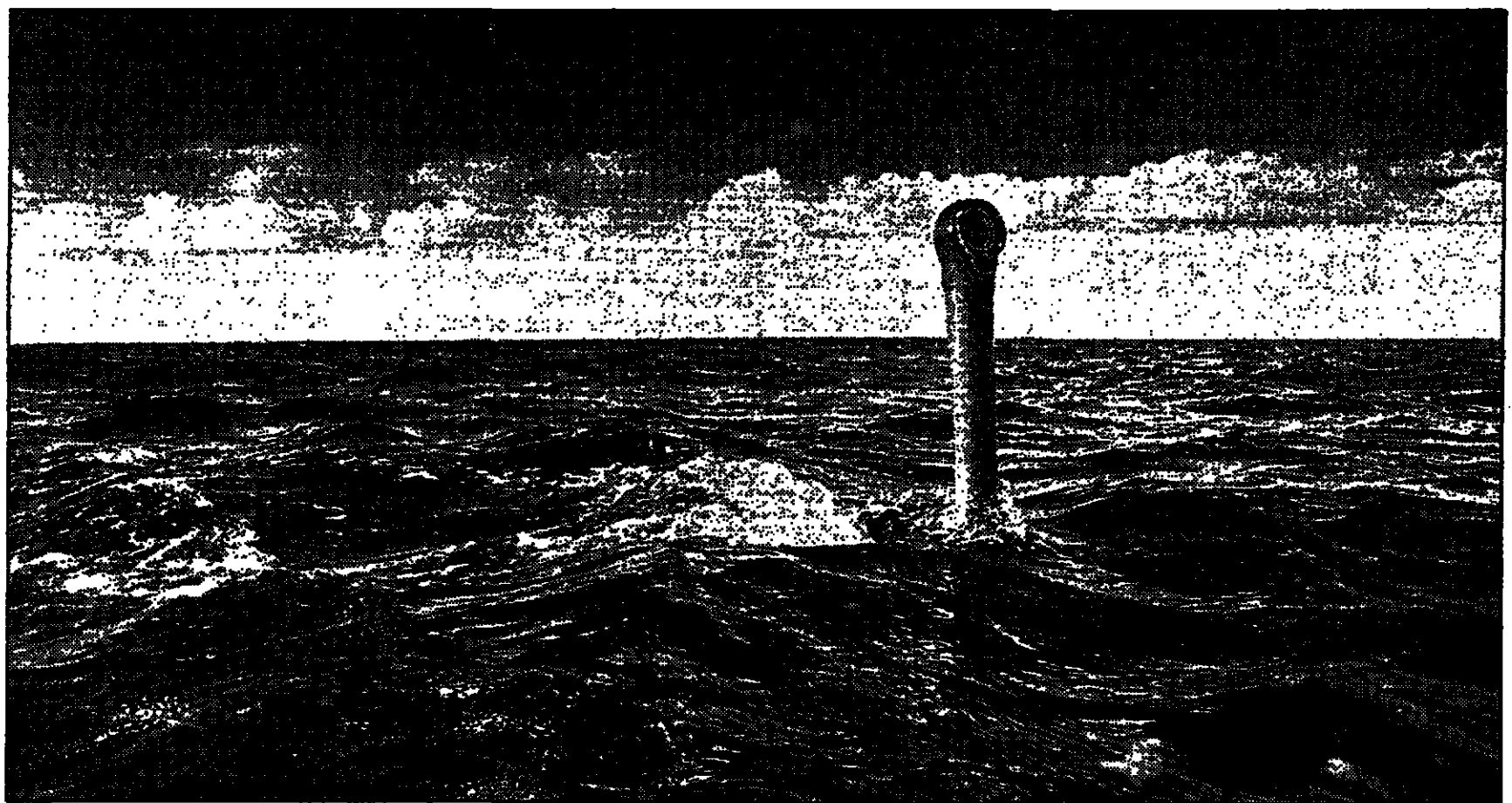
## Top level changes in Reuters reshape



**Jim Birrell: to become chief executive of the Halifax**

...the ... ..

# ONE SCOTTISH PRODUCT POPS UP A LOT DOWN UNDER.



In 1888, Professor Barr, Professor of Engineering at Glasgow University and his colleague Professor Stroud, Professor of Mathematics and Physics, saw a War Office advertisement inviting tenders for the design of an infantry rangefinder. By combining their talents they designed and patented a revolutionary rangefinder which inspired the formation of Barr and Stroud. This distinguished company has continued to pioneer major technological advances in opto-electronics. Their work in fibre optics and lasers is applied in laser surgery and safer traffic lights, tank sights and periscopes. Barr and Stroud, from their headquarters in Glasgow, lead the world in thermal imaging and currently command 30% of the market in periscopes. So when the subject of periscopes came up for the Australian Navy they naturally looked to Glasgow and placed a £30m order. In Scotland, research scientists and industrialists are working hand-in-hand to create revolutionary new products for markets throughout the world. For in depth information on how the dynamic climate of innovation in Scotland can help your business call Jim Reid on Freefone Scotland or write to the Scottish Development Agency at the Scottish Centre, 17 Cockspur Street, London, SW1Y 5RL.

## SCOTLAND. LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

SCOTTISH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, HEAD OFFICE, 120 BOTHWELL STREET, GLASGOW, G2 7JP. TELEPHONE 041-248 2700.

## RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		Rural Plc	
Ald Restaurants	61 +1	Sac Archives	150 +1
Barn Pet P/P	78	Shattbury (100p)	125 +1
Bata Mining (100p)	130 -5	Shattbury Prope (250p)	125 +1
Charmacorp	27*	Sylvest (100p)	125 +1
Co of Designers (100p)	100 -5	Tamworth Leisure	125 +1
Dolphin Packing (100p)	108 +5	Treanville Ind	125 +1
Farmway Ltd	78 +1	Treanville Ind	125 +1
Guelic Pac	130 +3	USPS Int	125 +1
Hard Rock Cafe	92 +3	USPS Int	125 +1
Do 'A'	92 +3	Wicham Secs	125 +1
ISA Int (80p)	97	Zeneca Ltd	125 +1
Lloyd Thomas	136		
Marlco Corp	81 -2	RIGHTS ISSUES	
Mayne Holdings	165	Aid Holographics N/P	25 +1
Neston-Gina (75p)	78 -2	Ch & F (100p)	14 -1
Power Corp	85	Hoti Go N/P	
Secord (60p)	85		
Rolls-Royce (170p)	106 -2	Issue Price in brackets	

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
November 30	December 11	March 3	March 14

Call options were taken out on: 8/12/87 Epicure, Aurora, MY Holdings, Westpac Motors, BOM Holdings, Top Value, Walker Greenbank, Jackson Explosives, Sand Diffusion, Rots-Royce.

Pat: Control Services

## LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Aid List	Cable							Rate	Aid List	Cable							Rate
	Surf	Sea	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind			Surf	Sea	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	De Ruyter	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
(321)	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(320)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(321)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(322)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(323)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(324)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(325)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(326)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(327)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(328)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(329)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(330)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(331)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(332)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(333)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(334)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(335)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(336)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(337)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(338)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(339)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(340)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(341)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(342)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(343)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(344)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(345)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(346)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(347)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(348)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7	18	25	40	(349)	1100	20	—	—	—	—	—	
ASD Lyst	300	40	55	65	7												

December 8, 1967      Total: 3386 Calls 13331 Pads 28495      FT-DE: Calls 588 Pads 955  
\*Underlying security price.



NTMENTS  
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Jim Barrett to become  
operative of the Hall  
Mr. Jim Barrett will be  
the new director of the  
Hall of Science and  
Technology. He will be  
responsible for the  
management of the  
Hall's affairs and for  
the development of the  
Hall's programme of  
research and education.  
He will also be  
responsible for the  
management of the  
Hall's finances and  
for the development of  
the Hall's programme of  
research and education.  
He will also be  
responsible for the  
management of the  
Hall's finances and  
for the development of  
the Hall's programme of  
research and education.

ENT ISSUES

RIGHTS SALES  
The rights to the  
film 'The Untouchables' have been sold to the  
BBC for a fee of £100,000. The film is based on the  
television series of the same name and is directed by  
John Badham. It stars Kevin Costner as the lead  
character, Alvin Karpis. The film is expected to be  
released in the UK in the early part of 1988.

ONAL OPTIONS

TRADED OPTIONS

TRADED OPTIONS  
The following table shows the prices of the  
Olivetti Open System Architecture (OSA) options  
as at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 1987.  
The prices are in pence per unit of the option.  
The first column shows the name of the option,  
the second column shows the price, and the third  
column shows the quantity of the option.  
The total quantity of the option is shown in the  
fourth column.

Option Name	Price (pence)	Quantity	Total Quantity
OSA 1000	100	100	100
OSA 2000	200	200	200
OSA 3000	300	300	300
OSA 4000	400	400	400
OSA 5000	500	500	500
OSA 6000	600	600	600
OSA 7000	700	700	700
OSA 8000	800	800	800
OSA 9000	900	900	900
OSA 10000	1000	1000	1000

## An effective System Architecture should provide an open bridge to communication.

High on the agenda of most companies will be "improving communications." Yet, surprisingly, there are still some influential manufacturers of information systems whose very technology impedes communication. The plain fact is that it is not in their interest to allow customers the benefits of free information exchange.

### The Olivetti difference.

This is not the case at Olivetti. Open System Architecture from Olivetti is a way to open closed systems. It is a bridge that by connecting the diverse technologies of different manufacturers, permits communication. And accommodates new technology as soon as it is available.

At the foundation of the Olivetti plan are the principles of connectivity and standards. Being able to connect environments defined by different manufacturers facilitates the exchange and integration of information, for an infinite number of tailored applications at all levels of use. Acceptance of standards lets the system evolve and grow naturally, in step with your company.

In short, Open System Architecture from Olivetti fosters not just the coexistence of systems, but their complete integration.

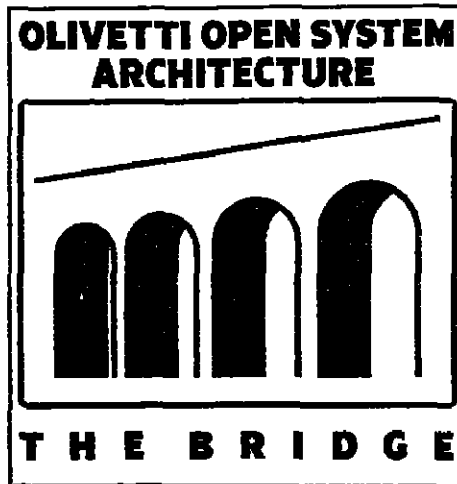
### The Olivetti solution.

International standards for information network design provide the foundation of Open System Architecture. They manifest themselves in the Olivetti family of networking products, which incorporates all ISO/OSI standards for both Local and Wide Area Networking applications. And in Open System Architecture's commitment to the PC world of MS-DOS.

At the same time, Olivetti offers a full line of protocols allowing complete connectivity with the environments of the major vendors. At the same time, Olivetti is launching a new fully integrated line of LSX 3000 minicomputers capable of supporting from two to two hundred linked users.

The industry standard UNIX system is the foundation for the new Olivetti LSX 3000 minicomputer family. These computers support an operating system conforming to the UNIX System V and X/OPEN standards. A host of applications software satisfies the most complex needs. Of course, the computers continue to support MOS, the Olivetti operating system developed for specific market sectors.

To learn how you can build bridges that allow information to link people and departments, please contact Lynne Blackwood or Carmel Paige on 01-377 8644 or write to them at British Olivetti, 17-29 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PU.



# olivetti

UNIX is a trademark of AT&T Bell Laboratories  
MS-DOS is a trademark of Microsoft Inc.



20



Portfolio  
—Gold—

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stake. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	British Aerospace	Industrials E-K	
2	Anglo Irish	Financial	
3	Trinity	Industrials A-D	
4	Debenhams	Retail	
5	Craxi	Industrials A-D	
6	Vest	Industrials A-D	
7	Yates	Industrials A-D	
8	Ward	Industrials A-D	
9	Reckitt	Industrials A-D	
10	Edinburgh	Industrials A-D	
11	Amoco	Industrials A-D	
12	Rank Group	Industrials A-D	
13	Plimsoll	Industrials A-D	
14	Lee (Arthur)	Industrials A-D	
15	Whitbread	Industrials A-D	
16	Baker	Industrials A-D	
17	Smith	Industrials A-D	
18	Procter	Industrials A-D	
19	Peat Marwick	Industrials A-D	
20	Equity & G	Industrials A-D	
21	Harwood	Industrials A-D	
22	Supermarket	Industrials A-D	
23	Colson	Industrials A-D	
24	Lea	Industrials A-D	
25	Barton	Industrials A-D	
26	Rank	Industrials A-D	
27	Coram	Industrials A-D	
28	Sale	Industrials A-D	
29	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
30	Anglo	Industrials A-D	
31	Debenhams	Industrials A-D	
32	Holbe	Industrials A-D	
33	Reckitt	Industrials A-D	
34	Equity & G	Industrials A-D	
35	Harwood	Industrials A-D	
36	Supermarket	Industrials A-D	
37	Colson	Industrials A-D	
38	Lea	Industrials A-D	
39	Barton	Industrials A-D	
40	Rank	Industrials A-D	
41	Coram	Industrials A-D	
42	Sale	Industrials A-D	
43	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
44	Anglo	Industrials A-D	
45	Debenhams	Industrials A-D	
46	Holbe	Industrials A-D	
47	Reckitt	Industrials A-D	
48	Equity & G	Industrials A-D	
49	Harwood	Industrials A-D	
50	Supermarket	Industrials A-D	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

## BRITISH FUNDS

1987 High Low Share Price Dividend

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

## FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

## OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

## UNDATED

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

## INDEX-LINKED

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

## BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Shorts Under Five Years	Price	Dividend
1	100	10
2	100	10
3	100	10
4	100	10
5	100	10
6	100	10
7	100	10
8	100	10
9	100	10
10	100	10
11	100	10
12	100	10
13	100	10
14	100	10
15	100	10
16	100	10
17	100	10
18	100	10
19	100	10
20	100	10
21	100	10
22	100	10
23	100	10
24	100	10
25	100	10
26	100	10
27	100	10
28	100	10
29	100	10
30	100	10
31	100	10
32	100	10
33	100	10
34	100	10
35	100	10
36	100	10
37	100	10
38	100	10
39	100	10
40	100	10
41	100	10
42	100	10
43	100	10
44	100	10
45	100	10
46	100	10
47	100	10
48	100	10
49	100	10
50	100	10

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES  
Best levels not held

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end December 18. Settlement day December 21. Settlement day January 4. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26.)

1987 High	1987 Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Trinity	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Debenhams	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Craxi	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Vest	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Yates	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Ward	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Reckitt	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Edinburgh	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Amoco	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Rank Group	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Plimsoll	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Lee (Arthur)	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Whitbread	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Baker	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Smith	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Peat Marwick	100	+5	+5.0	15.2

BREWERIES						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Trinity	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Debenhams	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Craxi	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Vest	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Yates	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Ward	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Reckitt	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Edinburgh	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Amoco	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Rank Group	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Plimsoll	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Lee (Arthur)	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Whitbread	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Baker	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Smith	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Peat Marwick	100	+5	+5.0	15.2

BUILDING, ROADS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Trinity	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Debenhams	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Craxi	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Vest	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Yates	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Ward	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Reckitt	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Edinburgh	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Amoco	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Rank Group	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Plimsoll	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Lee (Arthur)	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Whitbread	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Baker	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Smith	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Peat Marwick	100	+5	+5.0	15.2

FINANCE, LAND						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Trinity	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Debenhams	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Craxi	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Vest	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Yates	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Ward	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Reckitt	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Edinburgh	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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100	95	Baker	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Smith	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Peat Marwick	100	+5	+5.0	15.2

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Trinity	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Debenhams	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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FOODS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Peat Marwick	100	+5	+5.0	15.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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CINEMAS, TV						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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DRAPERY, STORES						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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100	95	Procter	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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HOTELS, CATERERS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
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INDUSTRIALS A-D						
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ELECTRICALS						
100	95	British Aerospace	100	+5	+5.0	15.2
100	95	Anglo Irish	100	+5	+5.0	15.2



## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

## A vote of no confidence

## OPINION

Marcel Berlins

In 1849 Queen Victoria's courtier Prince Albert went to court to stop copies of sketches drawn by the royal couple for their private amusement from being publicly exhibited. It was one of the first cases in which the law of confidence was used to prevent publication. Today, after more than a century in relative obscurity, during which it was applied mainly to protect trade secrets, the law of confidence is flourishing as a means of gagging the media. It is the foundation of the Government's legal attempts to stop the publication of *Spycatcher*; last week it was the basis of the Attorney-General being granted an injunction stopping Radio 4's *My Country* from revealing the marital confidences of his then wife the Duchess.

It has also been used to stop the *Sun* publishing a nanny's intimate tale of the home life of Anne Diamond; to ban a *Mirror* story based on the tapping of former champion jockey John Francome's telephone; and to prevent various servants from spilling the beans about life with the royals. In the 1960s it was used spectacularly to prevent the Duke of Argyll revealing the marital confidences of his then wife the Duchess.

The moral basis of the law of confidence is easy to see. Most people would regard it as wrong that trusted employees, or spouses, should freely be able to reveal to the world what they have learned in confidence. But turning that general moral sense into a legal principle is not so easy. The law of confidence is today uncertain and inconsistent, and is being used in ways it was not designed for.

Most of the problems have arisen from the defences to breach of confidence actions, and especially those that focus on the point that disclosure was "in the public interest". It has been the law for more than a century that "there is no confidence as to the disclosure of an iniquity": in other words that if you are

revealing a crime, or some other seriously reprehensible behaviour, the law of confidence should not apply. The fact that the information is already "in the public domain" should also be a bar to a breach of confidence action. So when John Lennon tried to stop his ex-wife from publishing lurid details of their life together, the courts turned him away because so much of the information was already public knowledge.

But what have we in the *Spycatcher* case? Among other legal arguments, the newspapers who wish to publish details contained in the book are claiming, first, that it is in the public interest that evidence of criminality in the secret services should be disclosed, and second, that much of what the book reveals is already "in the public domain".

Yes, says the Government, but there is an overriding public interest in maintaining the obligation of confidence owed by former employees of the secret services. The issue is to be decided by Mr Justice Scott in the next week or two and, no doubt, by the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords afterwards.

The problem is that "public interest" is an infinitely flexible concept, meaning different things to different people, not least to different judges. As a result, all sorts of plaintiffs are trying to use the law of confidence to protect what they don't want to be made public, hoping that the judges will agree with them.

In 1980 the Law Commission drew up a draft breach of confidence Bill which drew a balance between the competing interests. It still left room for the exercise of discretion by the judges, but not as much as they have now. It is a sensible Bill, and it hardly needs to be added that it has been left on the shelf gathering dust ever since.

The author is editor of *Law Magazine*.

Bob Woodward is in London to publicise his book *Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA, 1981-1987*. Aged 44, a strongly built, carefully groomed man, Woodward is in his prime. One of the reporting team that uncovered the Watergate affair in the early Seventies, Woodward is now assistant managing editor on the *Washington Post*, a wealthy executive who has lost none of his investigative zeal. He still feels that government is dangerous; journalists, he thinks, are an essential form of control.

In the Connaught Hotel, a waiter brought black coffee for Woodward, white for the reporter. "Thanks, I appreciate it," said Woodward, who is twice married, twice divorced. He sat down. A good sign, the reporter felt. Then, dressed conservatively, in grey flannel pants, a blue pin-striped shirt, and unremarkable tie, Woodward stood up and played with some pound coins from his pocket. He had been asked why his new book, intended as a factual account of the secret warmongering

### 'People like to read stories because that's how they communicate'

at the CIA under its last director, the late William J. Casey, repeatedly attributed thoughts and feelings to politicians, instead of direct speech; and used the narrative techniques of fiction to describe real events. That was troubling. It was also easy to imitate.

"It all has to do with a term I call credible intimacy," Woodward explained. Far from undermining the authority of his text, and swamping important political questions in the general suspicion arising from his assertions of what one man "had a sense" of, or another felt in his guts, Woodward claimed that the "credible intimacy" technique did quite the opposite.

"What I'm attempting to do is not novelizing, but presenting to the reader how the primary characters saw their problems, their struggle, the details of their lives. It all makes it a story and I think people like to read stories because that's the way people communicate, it's the way they see their lives - it makes it comprehensive," Woodward appeared, but may not have been, rather hurt.

Returning to the only hard chair

### Watergate hero Bob Woodward has found a new target: the CIA. How legitimate are his methods? Catherine Bennett investigates



Bob Woodward: turning recollections into reported speech; "I got it right"

In the room, Woodward pointed out that he had spoken to some of his 250 secret sources "dozens and dozens of times" in order to clarify relations between the autocratic Casey and his unfortunate deputies, who recoiled from his indifference to the barbarity of certain foreign terrorists who had become CIA associates. "It took years on my part to get the nature of what that was, and who those people are, and I feel I got it exactly right," Woodward said.

If much of the reported speech is based not, for example, on written records or tape-recordings, but merely on individual recollections, well, Woodward says what's good

enough for a court of law is good enough for him. His own sources were not under oath, nor any obligation to give him confidential information, but Woodward believes that their leaks were evidence of altruism: "They were troubled about what was going on. They were unsure, there was a sense of vulnerability, and uncertainty, that this was risky and complicated, that there has to be a debate on this thing."

Sadly, the debate on Casey's foreign intrigues behind the back of Congress, which allegedly included recruiting Saudi-funded hit squads in Beirut - one of which accidentally killed 80 civilians - has been

neglected after accusations, following the publication of *Veil* in October, that the stainless Woodward is also capable of deceit. Casey's wife Sophia has claimed that Woodward's final "conversation" in hospital with her mortally ill husband (in which the director is said to have uttered the immortal words "I believed") when asked why he had been party to the Iran-Contra conspiracy, never took place. Woodward dismisses the controversy - "the CIA has never said I wasn't there" - and considers the matter closed.

Whatever the truth, there is a notable reluctance on the part of the American public to hail the *Veil* and Iran-Contra revelations as the same kind of heroic reporting endeavour as Carl Bernstein and Woodward's *All the President's Men* in 1974. "The difference is between Nixon and Reagan, not the press and the public," Woodward said. "Nixon had many years to serve, there was the clear violation of law and people were suspicious of him. In the case

### 'I have heard some criticism that a lot of *Spycatcher* isn't true'

of Reagan he had a year and a half to serve and he's much more popular... people don't have that visceral suspicion and distrust."

Although he now argues that the CIA's clandestine warfare had "broader implications" than the Watergate scandal, that Casey had acquired too much power and needed controlling, Woodward's book is conspicuously lacking in such analysis and condemnation. It is as if, after 16 years of squeezing information out of American politicians, he has absorbed some of their evasiveness and suave, senatorial gravitas. He is cautious, even, in his criticism of Press restrictions in Britain, which would make a book like *Veil* an impossibility.

He considers the Government ban on *Spycatcher* absurd - "but I'm not so sure that there's anything in *Spycatcher* that is so important". Had he read the book? Woodward had, but it had obviously lacked credible intimacy. "I don't know," he said. "I have heard some criticism that a lot of it is not true. I've not attempted to balance that."

*Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA, 1981-1987* (Simon and Schuster, £14.95)

## What's in a name?

A slimming cube by any other name can sell even better...

A product's fortunes in the marketplace are unlikely to be enhanced by reference to the killer virus Aids. Dep UK, the American-owned toiletries manufacturer, is the latest company to acknowledge that certain connotations are bad for sales: it has changed the name of Ayds, its long established slimming cube, to the Ayrd-Slim Diet Programme.

Not long ago P&O phased out the Townsend Thoresen name (shades of the Zebrugge ferry disaster: we shall now cruise to the continent on P&O European Ferries). The *Evening Standard* returned to its original title late last month, having dropped *and/or* added London and



Evening, according to the dictates of the moment. And earlier this week the National Marriage Guidance Council changed its name to Relate.

The trick with all name changes is to cling on to your existing buyers, readers or users while simultaneously attracting new ones. Somehow Dep UK had to get away from the Aids idea without losing what marketing manager Richard Griffin calls its "half to three quarters of a million loyal users in this country".

Between now and the middle of next year, nearly half a million pounds will be spent re-educating consumers into the delights of the Ayrd-Slim Diet Programme's new fruity flavours, with added calcium and vitamins. Ayds used to come in yucky vanilla, mint and coffee flavours. The new programme is available in orange, blackcurrant, apple and vanilla. Gone is the white packaging; in comes a bright, new box, emphasizing the colourfulness of the new flavours. Black and white advertisements are replaced by full-page colour ads designed for women's magazines. Ayds lives on.

Andrew Lycett

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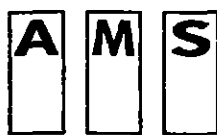
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## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

# You heard it here first

The new head of BBC radio news and current affairs is out to scoop Fleet Street with a specialist team. Richard Evans reports



Jenny Abramsky: "We found we were missing stories and following up newspapers rather than leading them"

After all, when was the last time one of the Government's law officers went rushing off to the High Court to stop a radio series? Unbeknown to her, Sir Patrick Mayhew was literally set to pounce as the new editor in charge of all news and current affairs output on BBC radio discussed her forthcoming changes.

But at least the Attorney General's legal outburst provided the opportunity for the corporation's news machine to be first in telling the public what was happening. And that is exactly what Abramsky hopes to hear in other areas of BBC radio reporting in the months to come.

Abramsky, aged 41, adores radio, and her self-confessed obsession has led her successfully through *The World This Week*, *PM*, *The World at One* (where, if Broadcasting House rumour is to be believed, she regularly gave Sir Robin Day the run-around) and, more recently, *Radio 4's Today*.

Having looked at the major issues likely to arise in the remaining four years of the third Thatcher Government, she examined her new empire to see how the correspondents matched the key specialities needing covering. The gaps were there for all to see. "We were finding day in and day out that we were missing stories and following up newspapers rather than leading them."

"We didn't have a health services correspondent — so how on earth did we expect to know what was happening in the health services?"

That particular hole had been exposed painfully by the controversy about ending free dental and eye check-ups. "We didn't have anyone to turn to. We had to put a

general reporter on to cover that story who was having to find out as much as he could by quickly ringing up one or two people to get a briefing, and reading whatever he could in newspaper cuttings. That is not a serious way of journalism."

Vacancies amongst her staff, the return of Clive Cookson, science correspondent, back to the world of

newspapers and the imminent departure of Nick Jones, the award-winning Labour correspondent, to External Services has provided Abramsky with the opportunity to shuffle and tune her news team, a job unlikely to be completed before next spring.

With inner cities and the poll tax regularly at the top of any news list,

she is now advertising for a local government and community affairs correspondent. Health and social services is another new portfolio; a home affairs unit staffed by two specialists, and a sports news correspondent are also pencilled in.

The science correspondent will in future also tackle technology matters. The arts correspondent will be

officially responsible for media matters. Abramsky is also desperately keen to have a back-up for the education correspondent and has toyed with the idea of a specialist court reporter.

But there are limits to the changes she can bring about to news coverage, and the main one is cash. She admits the BBC is "very poor" compared with Fleet Street.

"It shows in one sense the poverty of the BBC that we can't actually split so many of these jobs. It would be nice to have a separate arts correspondent and a separate media correspondent, though I must say that would not be at the top of my list. There is no doubt that I could split health and social services I would. If I could beef up education I would. If I could even have an inner cities correspondent and a local government correspondent I would for the next few years do it separately. But you have to be realistic."

"It comes down to choice. We have therefore tried to make our choices relate to the subjects we think are going to be major issues. There are a core of basic subjects you have to cover requiring a central spine of correspondents. You have to have defence, domestic, labour, education, and economic correspondents. But the question was how did you group other subjects and where were the gaps that we were not covering?"

"Authority" is a word she mentions regularly: "I hope we will be able to approach the news with greater accuracy, and we will be able, in one sense, to lay it out more comprehensively for our audience, because if you have people who know their subject they should be able to explain it better."

Any improvement she achieves will be a personal bonus, because her appointment as radio supremo was almost the shortest in BBC history. "I was in such a state that I walked in front of a car. Very fortunately, somebody happened to be with me and pulled me back..."

## BYLINES

## Rocking the boat

Irish state broadcaster RTE last week banned one of its own television producers, Eoghan Harris, from appearing on a radio books programme. The ban was the latest bizarre turn in a campaign by Harris against what he claims is Provisional Sinn Féin "infiltration" of RTE's radio service.

Four weeks ago, in the wake of the Enniskillen bombing, Harris published a pamphlet *defending* Section 31 of Ireland's Broadcasting Act, which bans RTE from interviewing Sinn Féin spokesmen, and then resigned from his trade union because it contained radio producers who refused to condemn "the sick politics that led to Enniskillen".

On Monday he defied a management warning to stop rocking the boat by publishing another pamphlet naming three union officials and accusing them of "infiltrating support for Provisional spokesmen". "The management are more worried by socialists in RTE than they are by terrorists," says Harris, a member of the left-wing Worker's Party, who claims to detect pro-IRA bias in RTE's radio current affairs.

"We know our own people," said an RTE spokesman. "People's personal political views are only relevant if they are reflected in programmes, but there is no indication of that."

## Cannibals

A thrifty ITN has started buying the BBC's cast-offs: not newscasters this time but equipment. An ITN spokesman was round at the BBC's Redundant Stores department the other day investing £20 in a 15-year-old camera test device and asking whether the Beeb happened to have another couple as well. The device, built by Marconi to a BBC design, is no longer manufactured and ITN wants to cannibalize the BBC's to keep its own single example working.

## Aimed at Asians

The second issue of a new glossy quarterly, *Image*, comes out shortly, aimed at what its publisher calls Britain's "Asian yuppies". The first issue, retailing at a hefty £2.50, has 75 pages of fashion spreads, profiles and travel features, plus Indian film gossip and a feature on the phenomenon of Bhangra, the craze for Asian pop. Publisher R.K. Sarin is hoping for a circulation of 20,000 among second and third generation British Asians: "Young people who wear western clothes in the week, Indian clothes at the weekend."

## City TV

The airwaves of the City could soon be clogged with bankers and brokers taking part in televised phone-ins if a plan by financial services company Pont International gets approval. Pont wants to start a financial TV service

broadcast on microwave to the Square Mile, similar to a service which should shortly get the go-ahead in Sydney. Pont's Simon Bohrsmann reckons there might be 200 corporate subscribers for a day-long service of financial news, corporate videos and "interactive market discussion programmes".

## Briefing...

It's that man again: industrial designers have until March 25 to enter for the Robert Maxwell Prize, a \$10,000 award for the most significant contribution to theoretical writing on design... Professional consultants would charge £200 a time for the information packed into a single article in a new magazine for would-be small businessmen, *Enterprise*, claims publisher Graham Kelly, himself a 29-year old small businessman. The claim can be checked for a mere £1.80 a month... Circulation of *The Star* has fallen to 1,033,000 from 1.2 million following Michael Gabbert's eight-week editorship... Interesting bed-fellows: Europe's public service broadcasters, in the shape of the European Broadcasting Union, and Rupert Murdoch's Sky Channel are joining forces to launch a satellite-delivered sports channel... Convenience advertising: a husband-and-wife team have been visiting London ad agencies offering media directors an unbeatable opportunity — ads on the backs of lavatory doors in public houses.

## Why judgement by television is on trial

Until now, mock trials on TV have been confined to the deceased, but Thames Television is to break new ground with a courtroom drama on the alleged criminal wartime activities of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Austrian president.

The British legal establishment is divided on the issue. Lord Hailsham, the former Lord Chancellor, launched an attack against the programme in a letter to *The Times*.

suggesting it would make a mockery of the judicial process. "One is surely entitled to question the wisdom of using television to create a false impression of a real trial to implicate a living human being," he protested. "Where is this precedent going to end?"

Several law lords refused to take part in the programme. But others will, including Sir Frederick Lawton, until last year a Court of Appeal judge,

## The Kurt Waldheim courtroom drama has split the judges, says Kate Finch

and Lord Rawlinson, a former Attorney-General.

Thames, which is spending £1 million on research, insists that it will not be a "trial"; it will be a tribunal, it says, intended not to deliver a verdict, but to decide whether there is a *prima facie* case for Dr Waldheim to answer.

Five eminent judges from different countries will hammer out the terms of reference for nine days of hearings, which will then be compressed into a 1½-hour programme. Sir Frederick says: "I can understand Lord Hailsham taking the view that the programme is undesirable. He's a

politician and I can well imagine that the Foreign Office is not happy about investigations against the president of friendly country."

"But the programme is of public importance because Dr Waldheim is now persona non grata in many countries. It's time somebody said, 'Look, there's something in it and he really ought to say something,' or, 'There's nothing in it so everyone can shut up.'"

He told me: "This sort of issue is better ventilated in newspapers. It would be common sense to drop the programme."

The programme's producer, Jack Saltman, says the criticism is unjustified. "If I were to make a documentary I would be judge, jury and counsel and no one would raise an eyebrow."

The case rests — until the transmission date next June. Lord Hailsham denies pol-

## High Tech PR

A Plus is currently the fastest-growing specialist high tech PR agency and was recently named as one of the best small consultancies in the country. This has created opportunities for ambitious account executives who like the idea of joining a smaller agency that's on the move.

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\*PR Week Consultancy League Table, December 1986  
\*PR Week Industry Awards 1987

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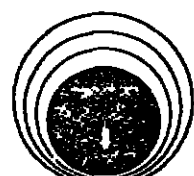
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You are a successful secretarial recruitment consultant with at least two years experience, a visible track record and great confidence in your ability to work on your own account. You are immediately interested in working for a higher level of reward, and with greater autonomy.

We are an established secretarial recruitment consultancy group with a strong reputation for quality service and progressive attitudes. We are opening a new division in which we will be offering a virtually clean sheet to four experienced consultants and two temporary controllers. We offer the advantages and comfort of working under the umbrella of an established organisation without any dilution of autonomy and reward. You will be running your own business with help and positive support from us.

On budget earnings (average six placings per month) will be circa £30,000 pa, with no limits. Those interested may apply with CV as individuals or groups to Rowena Church, 22-23 Princes Street, London W1.

SECRETARY/  
TRANSLATOR  
FOR LEADING  
INTERNATIONAL  
ARCHITECTS,  
LONDON W1

Secretary with fluent German; also Italian/Spanish if possible, to work as part of a busy creative team.

A flexible, cheerful person is required who enjoys a stimulating atmosphere and has the ability to communicate at all levels.

Age around 28.  
Salary up to £12,000.

AMSA (SPECIALIST REC CONS)  
01-734 0532

Circa  
£13,000

Overworked & underpaid - good!  
That's exactly what we need to run the show here.

We've created a new position for this purpose! You have to be numerate, organised, have commercial flair, be self-disciplined, used to working under pressure, unsupervised and capable of handling hundreds of problems - at the same time. Apart from that, it's a breeze!

If you think you fit the bill, please phone Susie Brennan on 01 935 4058 - After 11am.

NEW START  
FOR '88

Due to expansion we will be moving to fantastic new offices in the New Year. Consequently we require three exceptional secretaries: two for the retail agency department and one for our professional department within the overall property consultancy.

Applicants must have excellent, accurate typing - minimum 60 wpm - and good administrative skills, together with a cheerful personality.

Salary will be negotiable. We also offer 4 weeks holiday, season ticket loan and accident insurance. Employment to commence end-January 1988.

For further details please call 01-493 8424.  
(No Agencies)

## BANKING IN W1

c. £14,000 + MORTGAGE SUBSIDY

Are you an exceptionally organised PA with initiative and maturity who would enjoy working in this busy division of a leading US Investment Bank?

The Director of Equity Research seeks a professional PA/Secretary to whom he can delegate with a flair for administration and handling prestigious clients. You should be able to work effectively within a small, friendly team and have good WP experience. Age - mid 20's.

Please call 01-631 0479.

Seer Selection RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



## PR OPPORTUNITY

c. £13,000

Are you interested in the fast moving world of PR and looking for real involvement and variety in your next job? As PA to two charming Directors in this successful consultancy no day will be the same.

You should have excellent organisational skills to assist in the development of the firm's future strategies and the ability to communicate on a daily basis with top international clients.

Skills of 80/60 will be needed, but more important will be flexibility and initiative to develop your role in a key area.

Age preferred mid 20's.

Please call 01-631 0479.

Seer Selection RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CHAIRMAN'S PA  
COSMETICS AND PERFUMES  
WITH FRENCH

c. £12,000

As the confidential PA to the Chairman of this well-known cosmetics company, you will tailor-make the position for yourself.

Early responsibility will be yours when you show your ability to plan and organise functions, conferences and liaise with many organisations. Your aim will be to keep the company's name in the limelight. A self-starter, you will have your own office and develop the position into a senior role.

Solid experience and secretarial skills are necessary. But more important is self-motivation, flexibility and a professional attitude. 5 weeks holiday and generous discount on goods.

1988 BEGINS HERE  
WITH YOUR  
GERMAN!

A large, well-known international company based in Wembley requires two secretaries to join their team.

## SALES

You will have experience of working in a sales environment and enjoy a busy and sometimes pressured atmosphere. You will have good typing skills and WP experience, be flexible and involved.

## ADMINISTRATION WITH GERMAN

This is a varied and interesting position with a high administrative content and requires a positive and flexible approach. You will have good administrative and secretarial skills including shorthand and WP experience together with a knowledge of German. Preferred Age: 25-35. Salaries negotiable.

## International Secretaries

01-491 7100

01-491 7100

URGENT!!!  
SHORTHAND SUPERSTARS  
PACKAGES TO £18,000

PA TO DIRECTOR (23-32) PAID TRAVEL!  
Fantastic position for intelligent, capable admin/PA/secretary assisting a Director who will give you room to shine. This International Financial Institution needs a well spoken, well presented, highly skilled (100/50+), 'A' or 'A+' level qualified senior secretary with an excellent command of English for writing her own correspondence. Some knowledge of computers desirable for this high-tech environment.

PA TO MARKETING VP (23-32) PAID TRAVEL!  
Deal with blue chip companies at Chairman level arranging conferences, meetings, travel etc. Enjoy luxury offices in W1 International Financial Institution working with a very relaxed delightful VP. Your excellent skills (100/50+), 'O' or 'A' level qualifications will gain you entry if you are also well spoken and well presented with an outgoing personality and flexible attitude.

SHORTHAND/AUDIO/PA SECRETARIES (18+) PACKAGE TO £17,000  
An expanding major UK City Financial Institution needs several junior and senior secretaries who are flexible, with team spirit. Your eagerness to work hard will gain you one of the best benefit packages in the City. Good presentation, speech skills (WP/audio/shorthand 90-100+) are essential. Tube/bus commuting distance preferred.

JUNIOR PA (20+) BASIC TO £12,000  
Must be outgoing with excellent presentation and skills to assist this busy MD.

CALL 01-588 7287  
Or address CV's to  
Kieran O'Rourke or Fiona Boyce, Secretarial Division  
Bell Court House, 11 Belsfield Street, London EC2

Invest in your future  
c. £15,000

Your administration and people skills will fast come into their own as you join this recently formed investment management organisation. As PA to one of the busiest directors, you will enjoy contact with people at all levels, solving problems and answering queries. You will be encouraged to take an active part in the smooth running of this pressurised department, contributing your ideas as well as supervising a junior secretary. This is a demanding role for someone with initiative, flexibility and stamina who can combine a sizeable typing load with an interesting administrative content. Age: 24+ Skills: 90/60 + Audio.

RECRUITMENT  
COMPANY

01-531 1220

5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

## PA TO MD

Of independent television production company. Excellent shorthand and typing required (although this is not constantly in use).

Solely responsible for running a busy office, plus close involvement in all aspects of the company's productions. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing only to:

Laura Brook  
Noel Gay Television Ltd  
24 Denmark Street  
London WC2H 8NJ

£15,000 per annum  
SECRETARY

Euston land agency require a committed and hard working person for a very busy office. Duties include secretarial, audio, organising of bills/invoices, client liaison, project chasing. Hours 9.30-6.30

Send CV & letter stating why you would like to work for Landale to:

Colin Fox, Landale Ltd, Euston House,  
81-103 Euston Street, London NW1.  
01-388 3025

BRIGHT ENTHUSIASTIC  
SECRETARY

Required for our busy Hamamersmith office. Experience less important than accuracy in spelling and typing. Salary negotiable.

Reply in writing with CV to  
Gregory Besterman, Sullivan Thomas,  
19 Bellevue Road, SW17.

RING 01-836 9272

ADVERTISING  
ADMIN MANAGER

£13,000 +

Are you outgoing but discreet, with a good sense of humour? Would you enjoy organising all functions, meetings, and office administration whilst providing PA support (occasionally utilising your good typing skills)? If you can communicate effectively at all levels and have similar experience, call Nikki or Karen for further information on this exciting opportunity.

KINGSWAY RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
1 Kingsway, London WC2

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/PA  
£15,000

An exciting and unusual opportunity has arisen for a fully experienced and senior secretary. The position involves working closely with the Managing Director of a major US investment company and therefore a flexible and committed approach is essential. The successful candidate will be well used to dealing with clients at the highest level and will ideally have had previous experience in banking or the financial sector. The negotiable salary will be augmented by a substantial annual bonus. Age 25-35.

Please contact Jan Emley on 377 1199

RODAN MANAGEMENT LIMITED  
14 DEVONSHIRE SQUARE LONDON EC2 2ET  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

In Richmond are looking for the following:

2 secretaries/typists  
1 junior secretary

Good pay and working conditions.

Please contact/send CV to:

Sonia Blandford, MacIntyre Hudson, Ashley House,  
16-20 George Street, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 1HD  
01 940 6020

DRAKE  
DRAKE  
DRAKEUniversity College and  
Midlands School of  
Medicine  
SECRETARY

Required to work in the Administration of the newly formed School of Medicine. The successful applicant will work for the Hamamersmith Office, responsible for the organisation of the clinical course for medical students and various committees. She will also provide secretarial services on a part-time basis to the Vice President (Medicine).

This is an exciting new post which has potential for development. Applicants should have excellent skills including note taking and word processing, an inviolable telephone manner and organisational ability. Salary in the range £7721 - £9218. For further details please contact Mary Henderson, Administrative Officer, Medical School, Hamamersmith, Ashley House, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 1HD. 01 388 3025.

University College and  
Midlands School of Medicine  
SENIOR SECRETARY

Required for busy Hamamersmith Department with active research and clinical interests. Good typing, shorthand and word processing essential. Knowledge of medical terminology an advantage. Salary in the range £9242 - £10307.

Please send your curriculum vitae to Dr S J Machin, Department of Hamamersmith, School of Pathology, Ashley House, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 1HD. 01 388 3025.

PART-TIME  
RECEPTIONISTS

£8,000 pa +

Two smart receptionists with initiative required for luxury serviced and furnished offices in St James. Hours 8am - 2pm or 1pm - 7pm.

Ring Robi Cherry on  
01 409 1343

## DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY W1

Experienced secretary with good all round skills including SH and WP (Wordstar) required in small friendly Head Office of public property company. Excellent salary and usual benefits.

Apply: Mr F M Horvat, Company Secretary,  
25, Manchester Square,  
London W1M 5AP.  
Tel: 01 935 2457

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# Opening up the market for all



**SPORT  
IN THE CITIES**

**TOMORROW**  
How the big football clubs are  
trying to help

**V for victory: Indoor bowls proves a popular attraction (photograph: Hugh Routledge)**

## Souyave stands down from North squad

Missing too are those who are playing for Great Britain. They have played continuously from summer and will automatically be included in the England trials after Christmas, so will not play for their territories. The one exception is Jane Sixsmith, of Warwickshire, which was pronounced *Warwick*.

## Christie gets European title chance

Aston Villa Leisure Centre, on January 19 against Joey Ferrell, of Puerto Rico. I don't want Lloyd to stand around waiting for Nkalankete," Lynch said.

# Reminiscences of the iron hand in the velvet glove

## SPORTS BOOKS OF THE YEAR

**£10.95, Joe Mercer, by the author, £13.95, and Steve Cuthan, Derek Mitchell, £12.95.**  
[All these books can be bought at  
Turf Newspapers, 26 Shepherd's  
Market, London, W.1]

## Ambitious Fitzpatrick looks to the future

The key to Fitzpatrick's scheme revolves around education. "I want to make sure that kids don't need their

## Privy Council

## Dispensing with oral hearing in immigration appeal

The factual background reflected no credit on the applicant. The judge commented that there did not appear to be the faintest merit in the applicant's substantive case. The applicant had over the years, played fast and loose with the United Kingdom immigration authorities. That said, however, if there was any merit in

Mr Riza submitted that the whole framework of the immigration legislation, as it had developed, was to provide maximum rights of appeal to those who had entry clearance at the time of their entry to the UK. Hence, there was the special provision in section 22(5)(b) dispensing with the need for

## Court will consult

**Mr J. K. Findley, QC, DPP**  
**not give**  
**the opinions**

indicated that the essential evidence to link the respondents with the robberies depended on the ballistic evidence. If that did not satisfy them beyond reasonable doubt, then they should turn their attention to the alternative offences of handling.

obligation of the jury to be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the accused was guilty of the particular offence before they entered such a verdict.

But for that, the trial judge directed the jury quite properly

In *R v Cash* ([1985] QB 801) once more the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) had to deal

ected the respondent's account, the only reasonable and proper verdict was that he was guilty of handling. If the jury had not received the misdirection, they would inevitably have come to the same conclusion.

**Court will not give consultative opinions**

arose on an appeal from the refusal to strike out a claim if the defendant could not establish that the claim was vexatious or that the Court of Appeal gave no negative opinions on points of law. Even if the Court were to decide that the plaintiff's cause of action had accrued at such a time that it was *prima facie* statute barred, the appeal should still have to be dismissed because the plaintiff alleged concealed fraud, which allegation could only be dealt with at a full trial.

"When a person is charged with theft and, in the alternative, with receiving, and the sole evidence connecting him with the offences is the recent possession of the stolen property, then, if the only reasonable inference is that he must have either stolen the property or received it knowing it to be stolen, he should be convicted

Drivers, Conductors and Passenger) Regulations 1936 (SR & O 1936 No 619), as amended by SI 1980 No 915, created six separate offences and not one offence. Accordingly an information alleging breaches of two offences provided by the regulation was bad for duplicity.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Mac-

MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON said the information alleged that Mr Amos failed to behave in a civil and orderly manner contrary to regulation 4(a) and take all reasonable

The first allegation related to a minor altercation during which Mr Amos asked a young man to leave the bus. Before the young man had fully alighted the doors were closed leaving his foot caught in the door and he was dragged along the road.

Regulation 4 provided for six different offences. The information was clearly bad for duplicity and the conviction would be



## RACING: EASTERBY SET FOR HAYDOCK DOUBLE

## Bollin Palace has bright chance returning to optimum distance

By Mandarin

Peter Easterby, the north's man for all seasons, looks the trainer to follow at Haydock Park this afternoon when he has bright prospects of landing a double in the handicap hurdles with Bollin Palace (2.0) and Quarrat Al Ain (3.0).

The easy winner of his only start at Sandown last season, Bollin Palace was having his first race for almost 12 months when a close fifth, beaten only four lengths, behind Mary Reveley's good hurdler Firm Price at Wetherby in October.

The Royal Palace gelding was beaten more than 20 lengths when fifth to Green Steps at Haydock 13 days ago, but the bare facts of that performance do not tell the whole story.

Bollin Palace came to hold a challenging position three out in that highly-competitive event, but then ran out of stamina and was not subjected to a hard race, once his winning chance had evaporated.

Easterby and Loran Wyer, who rides Bollin Palace, also

have a sound chance in the only other hurdle race on the card, the Ashton Novices' Hurdle, with the useful Galadino.

However, Jim Wilson's Come Alone, who fulfilled the promise of some excellent placed efforts when winning at Worcester last month, is narrowly preferred.

A total of just eight horses contest the two steeplechases at the Lancashire track and neither race appeals as a betting medium. J-J-Henry should prove capable of conceding weight to his two rivals in the Boston Pit Handicap Chase if he is to concede 8lb to Tontons The Night, Proud Pilgrim and the consistent Green Gorse, the John Cannon Novices' Chase.

At Huntingdon, a number of fancied runners from yesterday's abandoned Leicester meeting again have leading chances including Jenny Pitman's pair, Moleys (11.45) and Chatsneegschlochoe (2.15).

For today's nap, though, I take the promising Bangor to open his account over fences in the second division of the Crowland Novices' Chase.

Twice a winner over hurdles last season, this Random Shot mare was not suited by Windsor's sharp new chasing debut at Windsor last month.

Nevertheless, she shaped with considerable promise to finish second to Fast Lady in the second division of the Crowland Novices' Chase.

David Barons has confirmed that Playschool will run in the Lingfield Park Handicap Chase on Saturday when his rivals will include Boland's Cross, Paul Nicholls, who damaged a hand at Bangor last week, is fit to ride.



The wintry sunshine paints an imposing picture at Fontwell, yesterday's sole surviving meeting (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

## HAYDOCK PARK

## Selections

By Mandarin

1.00 Come Alone.  
1.30 Green Gorse.  
2.00 Bollin Palace.

By Michael Seely

1.30 Tontons The Night. 2.00 EL GALADINO (nap).

## Guide to our in-line racecard

103 0-4222 TIMEFORM 74 (CDU/F, A, B) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-Fell, P-Popped up, U-Unsettled, B-Brought down, S-Slipped up, R-Refused). Horse's name. Best start (S). Best time (T). Best place (P). H-Hood, E-Eyesight, C-Course winner, D-Distance winner. CD-course and distance winner.

## Going: good (7.30 am inspection)

## 1.05 ASHTON NOVICES HURDLE (21.600: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

1 00-0401 COME ALONE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
2 00-0402 GREEN GORSE 18 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
3 00-0403 BOLLIN PALACE 20 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
4 00-0404 TONTONS THE NIGHT 22 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
5 00-0405 EL GALADINO 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
6 00-0406 JENNY PITMAN'S PAIR 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
7 00-0407 CHATSNEEGSCHLOCHOE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
8 00-0408 BANGOR 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
9 00-0409 RANDOM SHOT 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
10 00-0410 BOSTON PIT HANDICAP CHASE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
11 00-0411 GREEN GORSE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
12 00-0412 BOLLIN PALACE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat 9-10-0 — West (8) 88  
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209 00-0609 GREEN GORSE 21 (D) (S) (M) D Robinson 8 Hat











# The show must go on no longer

From John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent  
Faisalabad

There was another thoroughly regrettable and undignified scene here yesterday, this time just as play was ending in the second Test match between England and Pakistan. It developed into a direct and heated confrontation between Mike Gatting, the England captain, and Shakoor Khan, Pakistan's most experienced, despotic and contentious umpire.

Relations on the field have become so strained that England are reminded at the start of each day not to become involved in controversy and conflict, whatever the provocation. But now, as in Lahore, they allowed their emotions to get the better of them: first when Atkey was spoken to by Shakoor for exchanging words with Ijaz, whom he thought should have been given out, and then, much more seriously, when Gatting lost his temper.

Hemmings was bowling what was to be either the last or the penultimate over of the day. The timing is important because it was in his keenness to get in another over that Gatting, fielding at base, short leg, informed Salim Malik verbally and hurriedly that he was bringing Capel in from long leg. Malik was the striker and Hemmings had already started his run-up when Gatting signalled to Capel that he had come far enough, whereupon Shakoor called for play to stop and accused Gatting of cheating.

There is certainly a case for saying that Shakoor was exceeding his authority, for there is nothing in the laws (as distinct from the spirit) of the game to stop Gatting from moving the field when he likes, so long as there is no distraction upon the batsman. Most captains — and obviously Ijaz — occasionally shift a fielder a little this way or that as a bowler is running in. Should the move be of some significance, the non-striker usually takes it upon himself to inform his partner. I have never before seen an umpire intervene as Shakoor did now and Gatting insists that he had notified Malik of what was afoot.

I have little time for Shakoor. At the best he is a bad umpire. He has had rows with one touring side after another. At Karachi, for example, in 1984-85 Jeremy Coney, the New Zealand captain, threatened to take his side off the field because of Shakoor's umpiring. He is not one to avoid a

## SCOREBOARD FROM FAISALABAD

England won toss won toss

### ENGLAND

First Innings

G A Goodrich c Amir Malik b Qasim	28	4	78	56
B C Broad b Tauseef	116	13	420	339
C W J Athey c Amir Malik b Qasim	27	5	196	84
D G Gilling b Qasim	79	14	121	81
R T Robinson c Ashraf Ali b Qasim	2	2	19	12
N G B Cook c Ashraf Ali b Qasim	2	2	18	7
J J Capel c Amir Malik b Qasim	15	0	65	6
J E Embury c Ashraf Ali b Qasim	15	0	65	6
N A Foster c Amir Malik b Qasim	2	2	12	9
Y B N French c Ashraf Ali b Qasim	2	2	12	9
E E Hemmings not out	19	0	65	6
Extras (lb 10, lb 5, nb 3, w 1)	19	0	65	6
Total (114.2 overs)	252			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-73, 2-124, 3-241, 4-249, 5-258, 6-259, 7-288, 8-288, 9-288.

BOWLING: Amir Malik 5-0-19-0 (nb 3); Mudassar 3-0-8-0 (w 1); Qasim 42-7-105-4; Tauseef 28-4-62-1; Qasim 35-2-55-6; Shoaib 1-1-0-0.

### PAKISTAN

First Innings

Mudassar Nazir c French b Foster	1	1	23	17
Ramiz Raja c Goodrich b Foster	12	1	182	146
Salim Malik not out	54	1	182	146
Javed Miandad b Embury	19	2	65	41
Ijaz Ahmed c Robinson b Embury	11	1	42	42
Shoaib Mohammad b Embury	9	1	42	42
Amir Malik not out	1	1	65	54
Extras (lb 5, nb 3)	8			
Total (55 white, 55 overs)	106			

[Ashraf Ali, Abdul Qadir, Iqbal Qasim and Tauseef Ahmed to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-22, 3-58, 4-77, 5-77.

BOWLING: Foster 10-3-20-2; Capel 7-1-23-0 (nb 3); Hemmings 11-2-20-0; Embury 15-6-24-5; Cook 12-4-12-0.

Umpires: Khizar Hayat and Shakoor Khan.

quarrel if he can help it. Already on this tour he has had one with Gatting, when England refused Pakistan's request for a specialist wicketkeeper to replace the injured Salim Yousuf during a one-day international.

For all that, unless the umpires are allowed to run the game as they see best, it becomes a shambles, and it was because Gatting argued the toss with Shakoor yes-

More cricket  
on page 42

terday, not mildly but in a rage, that England were in the wrong. Shakoor said afterwards that Gatting had used abusive language and told him to go back to his place and get on with his job.

The whole thing has become so thoroughly distasteful that I am inclined to think that the best way to bring everyone to his senses would be to call the tour off. There is no rapport whatever between the England management and the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan, whose announcement of Test umpires, without due reference to the England party, is undoubtedly a sequel to the TCCB's insistence on appointing David Constant in England last summer against the wishes of the Pakistanis.

England, too, are convinced that they are not going to get a square deal; that the umpires are not controlling the game "with absolute impartiality as required by the laws." It is all very bad for cricket.

Peter Lush and Mickey Stewart describe it as being "very sad." Stewart said: "Everyone is expecting another incident; we're on a knife-edge." Gatting said: "I've nothing to apologise for." Lush said: "I shall be taking no disciplinary action." Not a word of contrition. There is a closing of the ranks and I have much sympathy for Gatting, but Test captains, most of all England captains, just cannot behave as Gatting did yesterday, however mortified they may be. I can say no worse than it is the sort of thing one expects of Miandad or McEneaney.

England, too, had bowled themselves into a strong position in the match. After losing their last six first innings wickets before lunch yesterday for only 38 runs, they reduced Pakistan to 106 for five, still with three days left for play and on a pitch on which a lead of 150 should prove decisive. With the ball turning appreciably, Embury has already taken three for 25 in 15 overs.

England's first innings was finished off yesterday morning by Iqbal Qasim after Qasim had made short work of Capel and Tauseef had taken care of Broad. Qasim's figures for the morning were four for 17 in 12.2 overs; Qasim's, after three England innings, are 115-34-200-17. But the way the ball had turned could only be of encouragement to England.

Foster and Capel bowled well enough when Pakistan went in for Gatting to wait until the sixteenth over of

session. If enforced, it is hoped the regulation would speed up the game, while next summer's tourists, the West Indies and Sri Lanka, may be asked to agree to their implementation in the Tests.

The TCCB also intends to increase its revenue from advance ticket sales at Tests — from 7% to 12% per cent from ground authorities.

## Warning by TCCB

England's cricketers were yesterday warned by the Test and County Cricket Board that any dissent against umpiring decisions is "unacceptable at any time".

The TCCB's executive committee issued their warning after meeting at Lord's to discuss a confidential report sent back by England's tour manager in Pakistan, Peter Lush. Lush had given his view on the umpiring controversy in the first Test at Lahore, where England were beaten by an innings.

The TCCB statement says: "The Board's executive committee has advised the England manager that whatever the circumstances dissent by players against umpiring decisions is unacceptable at any time, and has instructed him to make the position clear to all the players on the present tour."

their innings before introducing a spinner. In his third over Foster had Mudassar caught low down at the wicket off a ball that left him and in his fifth he had Ramiz caught at second slip, thrashing at a ball of full length. Sandwiched between these two wickets, Miandad, when he was four, was missed at first slip by Gatting — the sort of chance which Gatting normally swallows. This would have been Capel's first Test wicket.

Miandad was in a noticeably grumpy mood, which led in the end to his giving Embury the charge and being bowled. From then on England were tightening their grip. At tea Pakistan were 70 for three. For most of the 90 minutes afterwards Embury was bowling with four men round the bat.

England thought they had to get Ijaz out twice, caught each time at short leg off Embury. When, first time, Shakoor turned down the appeal, an exchange of words between Athey and the batsman soon brought him down the pitch to remind Gatting who was in charge of the game. In Embury's next over Ijaz was not so lucky. Pushing forward again, he turned an off break low to the right of Robinson, who held a good catch.

The next ball, an off break that must have turned the best part of a foot, bowled Shoaib. Playing neither forward nor back, he had no possible chance against it. Sixty-five minutes remained and Amir Malik came in on a hat-trick to play his first Test innings. Having saved that, he revealed a solid forward defence.

Although still only 24, Salim Malik played like an old pro, even sharing the odd joke with the fielders and pulling and square-cutting for four a couple of loose balls that came his way. Night had almost closed in when eyes began to flash and tempers began to flare — and once again the cricket itself was forgotten. As all are agreed, it cannot go on.



Umpire at war: as England bowl themselves into a strong position, Gatting hawls himself into a weak one by giving Shakoor the meat of his tongue (Photograph: Graham Morris)



END COLUMN

## Wembley dream is ended for students

By David Miller

It is unbearably true, as Edward Thorpe said, that success is the only infallible criterion of wisdom to vulgar judgement. We see evidence of this almost every week in football. Today, it is a sad day to record that an era of 36 years comes to a close with the final University match at Wembley. The accounts have finally said the word.

We have long known that the wisdom of the Football Association is nowadays measured in tickling others, though mercifully some council members are seemingly putting a brake on the passing of the FA Cup to a lottery. Of course, money is essential to the game's survival, though it is ironic that the late Sir Stanley Rowe's visionary hospitality to the universities should terminate at this moment.

The reason, Wembley directors claim, is that it costs £20,000 to open the stadium for the only mid-winter event. This figure has to be questioned, but it is beyond the scope of the universities' altruistic City sponsors, St



Quintin, whose £5,000 or so per annum has covered essential elements of entertaining schools, visiting lists and such like.

Crowds of less than five figures, further depressed last year by the teachers' dispute, have not helped, and, from next year, the fixture moves, with the goodwill of Arsenal's chairman, Peter Hill-Wood, to Highbury. The universities last met at Highbury in 1937, when a mere 1,900 attended, the match subsequently switching before and after the war to Dulwich Hamlet at White Hart Lane.

In 1952, Rous sensed the public relations value for the promotion of school football by staging the match on the national stage. This was during the second golden era of university football, stretching across a mere 15 years or so, with Pegasus, the combined universities club, twice winning a Wembley full house when they won the Amateur Cup in 1951 and 1953.

This was a time when, briefly, Oxford and Cambridge football came close to professional standards. Geoffrey Green, the former Football Correspondent of The Times, recalls that Leslie Scott, the England and Arsenal right back and at the time the Oxford coach, when watching his side win a scintillating match 5-4 at Tottenham, was moved to observe: "If this is amateur football, I'm wasting my time at Highbury."

From these breeding grounds, fed now less by the public schools than by the great grammar schools of Lancashire, Cheshire, Durham, Yorkshire, Warwickshire and Staffordshire, grew Pegasus, a flurry of 21 amateur international players, and a handful who bridged the gap to play with professional clubs, such as Tanner, Parnon and Finmer.

Like the organ-grinder's time, the melody of the university teams caught the public imagination. As a player of only modest contribution with Pegasus, my four seasons were an experience of rare playing and musical interaction, a collective pursuit of excellence which, however humble and ragged it looked on these less successful, sometimes gruff afternoons in all too earthy surroundings far from Wembley, carried a special feeling of crusade.

Something of that mood has survived to this day, and the Wembley match has remained a cherished and open. Some of the old players, Cowan, Platt, Insole, Vowles, Pringle, were at Monday night's Hawks Club dinner which precedes the Twickenham match; there to hear Colin Cowdrey, the club guest, proclaim the responsibility of contemporary players, in all sports, to resist the wave of contemporary cheating and violence.

Denis Saunders, that inspiring Pegasus captain, is warden of the school at Lillington which the FA seeks to sustain with alcohol sponsorship. I am sure that Saunders, like Burke, could advise them of wisdom.

## Clampdown on time-wasters

The gamesmanship of players leaving and returning to the field during play is expected to be clamped down upon at the Test and County Cricket Board meeting tomorrow.

The Pakistan touring team last summer were especially adept at these time-wasting tactics — seen by Lord's officials as a growing problem contrary to the spirit of the

game. One umpire reported 60 incidents of substitution during the season which he considered to be fraudulent.

Proposals before the TCCB committee are: no substitutes allowed for 15 minutes after a player comes off (except seriously injured players); protective gear, except helmets, only allowed on or off the field at a fall of wicket or end of a

session. If enforced, it is hoped the regulation would speed up the game, while next summer's tourists, the West Indies and Sri Lanka, may be asked to agree to their implementation in the Tests.

The TCCB also intends to increase its revenue from advance ticket sales at Tests — from 7% to 12% per cent from ground authorities.

## York director may be forced to resign

By Keith Macklin

There were further developments yesterday in the aftermath of the mass brawl during York's second division match with Dewsbury last Sunday. The York directors met last night and it is believed that one of them, Albert Bond, who went on to the field and aimed a swipe at a touch judge, was asked to resign. If Bond does not resign, shareholders have the opportunity of voting him out at a meeting in a fortnight's time.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that the referee, Alan Burke, of Oldham, who refused to move in to the melee to separate fighting players, was merely obeying a recent League directive to referees who have been asked in such situations to stand back, make notes of the names or numbers of the participating players and report them to the management committee.

Bond said after Sunday's incidents: "I thought that someone was going to get killed. I should not have gone on to the field but I had to do something. I told the referee he was to blame and he told me to get off the field. Then a touch judge swore at me and I swore back at him but I didn't punch anyone."

The management committee meet next week to consider the referee's report and to make disciplinary decisions on players and officials who are deemed to have been implicated. Complicating the situation is the fact that Burke was the man in the middle earlier this season during another reported brawl at the Wakefield Trinity v Whitehaven game.

Rodney Hardcastle, the Dewsbury chairman, said yesterday: "The referee must take

some share of the blame for the incident. His decisions prior to this were illogical, indecisive and frustrated the players. In the tackle leading up to the incident he could have taken immediate action. He did not do so and this led to the brawl."

Ian Clough, the secretary of the York club, yesterday tried to defuse the growing controversy. He said: "I am absolutely disgusted at the way in which the media have gone over the top in reporting the incident. I have been in touch with the Dewsbury timekeeper and he tells me that the actual fight lasted only one minute and fifty seconds, nowhere near the four and five minutes that have been quoted in some papers."

"At least half a dozen players on each side were trying their best to separate the players and were not joining in the brawl. The fact is that there were no cut lips or bloody noses at the end of it all."

The disciplinary committee meet tomorrow to consider the cases of the five men who were sent off by the referee, three from Dewsbury and two from York. It has been alleged that the fifth player, Steve Hinchliffe, did not go to first and only left the field when a touch judge informed the referee that Hinchliffe was still taking part.

The management committee is under heavy pressure to impose salutary punishments on all proven offenders. Previous reported brawls have resulted in £100 fines and warnings but it is being predicted that this time heavier fines plus suspensions will be imposed.

## Maxwell handed ammunition

By Clive White

The Football League unwittingly gave Robert Maxwell further opportunity to ridicule its management committee yesterday when, because of oversight, the League's Queen's Counsel was given no formal instructions to discontinue its injunction proceedings in the High Court against Maxwell's take-over of Watford Football Club.

Maxwell has given the League 48 hours with which to complete the withdrawal of their injunction though he omitted to say what he and Elton John, who is selling his 92 per cent holding in Watford to Maxwell, would do should the League not keep to the deadline.

After a meeting, attended by John at Maxwell's Mirror Group offices, Maxwell issued a statement, which said: "There is no legal or moral reason why Elton John should not proceed with the disposal of his interests in Watford FC to BPCC. Accordingly, the agreement has been signed by John Holloran on behalf of BPCC and Elton John."

"However, given Philip Carter's absence abroad in Dubai which prevented the lawyers of the League management committee implementing Saturday's agreement to cancel the legal action, Elton John and BPCC have decided not to take advantage of the management committee's confusion and the agreement between them is therefore conditional on the League management committee honouring their agreement by, no later than 17.00 hours, Thursday, December 10."

The formal winding-up of the injunction is not due to take place until Friday after yesterday's abortive attempt when David Oliver, QC for the League, said that he had

been given no formal instructions not to pursue the injunction. Justice Vennott ordered the League to pay the costs of yesterday's hearing.

Carter, the League president, said from Dubai, where he was watching his club, Everton, play Rangers in the Dubai Super Cup yesterday: "I would prefer to defer comment until I have spoken to the relevant people in England."

The "relevant people" would appear to be his seven committee members, five of whom are, apparently, against the idea of dropping the injunction. Some, if not all, are furious that Carter sought

a secret meeting with Maxwell on Saturday without informing them first.

At the meeting, which was held at the home of David Dein, the Arsenal vice-chairman and a committee member, Maxwell agreed to sell his family interest in Oxford United while Carter agreed to drop the injunction.

"We cannot agree with it because we were not party to the meeting. That's why we've vetoed Carter's decision," Ron Noades, the Crystal Palace chairman and committee member, said. "The super clubs seem to think they're running the management committee. Carter and Dein are

now in a difficult position.

"The injunction should have been continued while the League chairman had a chance to consider the matter. Whoever's running the show is not a particularly good driver."

During the 40-minute hearing Maxwell and John attacked the League for seeking the injunction. In a sworn statement read to the court John said that any suggestion that he and Maxwell would have brought the deal forward to beat the ban had they known of the court moves was "scandalous and without any foundation".

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## SPORT IN BRIEF

### Baddeley's long rest

Steve Baddeley, the Commonwealth and English National badminton champion, will probably be out of action for two months after breaking a bone in his foot while playing former European junior champion, Matthew Smith, last week.

Baddeley is certain to miss next month's World Grand Prix finals in Hong Kong and could also be unable to defend his national title in February.

### Welsh squad

Wales have chosen a squad of 12 players, all with international experience, for the home countries quadrangular hockey internationals on December 18 and 19 in Perth.

Squad: J Fry (Cardiff), S Hogg (South Wales), P Francis (Cardiff), S Cogan (South Wales), M Williamson (Cardiff), I Williams (Cardiff), D Colquhoun (South Wales), I Gardner (Cardiff), A Gorman (Cardiff), O Macleary (Cardiff), A Colquhoun (Cardiff).

### Riding high

Honolulu (AP) — Gary Elkerton, of Australia, notched a second straight victory at Sunset Beach on Monday in the Triple Crown of Surfing, winning the Billabong Pro meeting.

### Final chance

Sixteen of Britain's top amateur snooker players chase £18,500 and the chance of possible promotion to the professional ranks when they meet in the Rothmans National Amateur finals at Solihull on December 12 and 13.

### Mitchell bout

Paris (Reuter) — Brian Mitchell, of South Africa, will defend his WBA junior-lightweight title in Sicily next week against Salvatore Currenti, of Italy, rather than Jean-Baptiste Mendy, of France.

## Merger is rebuffed by BOA

The British Olympic Association yesterday turned down any move towards a merger with the Central Council for Physical Recreation. The two bodies are due to have talks about "unification" at Buckingham Palace today after an invitation from the Duke of Edinburgh, who is president of the council.

The National Olympic Committee met yesterday and decided to reject a possible merger with the CCPR on the basis of "incompatibility of aims and responsibilities between the two bodies." However, BOA delegates to today's meeting have been charged with finding areas where the two organizations can co-operate to the benefit of sport in Britain in general.

Meanwhile, the BOA says it has given its delegates "positive instructions" to research a future umbrella organization giving British sport one voice.

Peter Lawson, the secretary of the CCPR, described it as "unfortunate" that the palace meeting had now been preempted. Dick Palmer, the BOA secretary, said: "We are incompatible with the CCPR because our organization is by definition elitist while they are an English, rather than British, body which is geared up for the man in the street."

Representing the BOA today will be Dick Palmer, Charles Palmer (chairman), Sir Arthur Gold (vice-chairman), Robert Watson (treasurer) and David Nixon (legal adviser). For the CCPR will be the Duke of Edinburgh, Peter Lawson (secretary) and three other delegates.

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